U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C. 20535

February 4, 2008

Mr. William Maxwell
Associate Professor
Department Of English
University of Illonois
608 South Wright Street
Urbana, IL 61801

Request No.: 1108418- 000
Subject: DUNHAM, KATHERINE

Dear Requester:

The records that you have requested were previously processed under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act for another requester.

Enclosed are 229 pages of documents pertaining to your request and a copy of the explanation of exemptions.

You may submit an appeal from any denial contained herein by writing to the Office of Information and Privacy, U.S. Department of Justice, 1425 New York Ave., NW, Suite 11050, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001, within sixty days from the date of this letter. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal" or "Information Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

Sincerely yours,

David M. Hardy
Section Chief,
Record/Information
Dissemination Section
Records Management Division

Enclosure(s)

EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552

(b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;

(b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;

(b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute(A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;

(b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;

(b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;

(b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;

(b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information (A) could be reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, (C) could be reasonably expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;

(b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or

(b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a

(d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;

(j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;

(k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;

(k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;

(k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;

(k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;

(k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;

(k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;

(k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

FBI/DOJ

4-596 (5-31-56)

U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FIL

100- HQ-334795 Sec. 1

Serials 1---

FEDERAL BUREAU

of

INVESTIGATION

DO NOT DESTROY

FOIPA# 1072067

USE CARE IN HANDLING THIS FILE

Transfer-Call

18-2124

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK CITY SA FILE NO. 108-175

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REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	10/23/44	9/13-10/13/44	[redacted]

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
KATHERINE DUNHAM	SECURITY MATTER - C; FOREIGN TRAVEL CONTROL

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: KATHERINE DUNHAM arrived San Antonio 9/13/44 via American Airlines. On interview by FTC panel she advised that she is an American citizen and was born on 1/22/09 in Chicago, Illinois. DUNHAM is a dancer and was enroute from Mexico City, where she had been on a two-weeks vacation, to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Her permanent address is New York City. No derogatory information developed on interview. Bureau advised that one KATHERINE DUNHAM, believed to be identical with subject, has been mentioned frequently in connection with several Communist front groups.

-RUC- 100-161920-9529

AGENCY ICC - USCS
REQ. REC'D 11-25-55
REP'T FORW. 12-14-55
BY

REFERENCE: Bureau letter dated 10/5/44.

DETAILS: KATHERINE DUNHAM, negro, arrived in San Antonio 9/13/44 via American Airlines. On interview by Special Agent [redacted] on the Foreign Travel Control panel DUNHAM furnished the following information:

She was born in Chicago 1/22/09 and was proceeding from Mexico City, where she had spent two weeks on vacation at the Reforma Hotel, to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where she said she would be for one week. DUNHAM stated that she travels throughout the country in her capacity as dancer with her own troupe. Her permanent address is 711 Fifth Avenue, New York City. She had no passport but was traveling on a tourist card. She added that she has engaged in no foreign travel since 1938. No derogatory information was developed on interview.

By reference letter the Bureau advised that one KATHERINE DUNHAM, a negro dancer, has been mentioned frequently in connection with various Communist front groups.

In view of the above, it is believed that the passenger is identical with the subject mentioned in reference Bureau communication.

Inasmuch as KATHERINE DUNHAM's home is New York City, the New York Office is being designated as origin and this report is being submitted for the information of that office.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: R C Suran SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

100-334795-1

COPIES OF THIS REPORT
5 Bureau
3 New York
2 San Antonio

AGENCY ICC - State
REQ. REC'D 1-29-53
REP'T FORW. 3-2-53
BY LNC - bd

F B I
41 OCT 26 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/13/00 BY [signature]
Comp # 912444

COPIES DESTROYED 1-13-60 COPY IN FILE
P-101

7-2034

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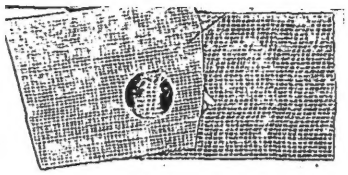
→ later, too far & erratic to rep U.S. abroad → must use!!! || The paramount position of [illegible]



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... Rose To J. E. H. Thanks for H.L.

Hello [redacted]

YOU'D BE GEE-WHIZZED AT THE AFTER-HOUR ORGIES THAT TAKE PLACE THRICE WEEKLY AT ONE OF THE TOWN'S MOST FAMOUS INTERPRETIVE DANCE STUDIOS.

(KATHERIN DUNHAM'S...)

ack. 4/12/48 mp.

Katherine Dunham

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/13/00 BY [illegible]

SE 4

RECORDED 14

1100-334795-2
F B I
31 APR 13 1948

EX-47

52 APR 21 1948 120

SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

March 18, 1953

KATHERINE DUNHAM PRATT
Aka Katherine Dunham
Born: June 22, 1912
Chicago, Illinois

In connection with your inquiry there is attached one copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] San Antonio, Texas, dated October 23, 1944, which was submitted in connection with the case entitled "Katherine Dunham; Security Matter - C; Foreign Travel Control." (100-334795)

For your further information the files of this Bureau contain the following pertinent data concerning this individual.

Abraham Lincoln School
(Chicago Workers School)

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A confidential and reliable informant advised in May, 1944, that [redacted] member of the Board of Directors of the Abraham Lincoln School (Chicago Labor School) stated that school officials wanted to do something for Katherine Dunham of "Tropical Review" and that they are thinking of having a cocktail party for her under the auspices of the Abraham Lincoln School. She stated that [redacted] of the International Workers Order was in favor of such an affair. (100-11507-264, page 10)

The Abraham Lincoln School and the International Workers Order were both cited by the Attorney General as organizations within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

Attachment

Original to State Department
Request received 1-29-53
[redacted] bwa

100-334795

SE-17
100-334795-3
MAR 20 1953
RECORDED - 16
INDEXED - 16
EX. - 106

DECLASSIFIED BY SP4 Hyp/Acg
ON 1/13/00

Tolson
Ladd
Nichols
Belmont
Clegg
Glavin
Harbo
Rosen
Tracy
Laughlin
Mohr
Winterrowd
Tele. Rm.
Holloman
Gandy

SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

American Russian Institute of
San Francisco, California

A confidential informant of known reliability advised in the spring of 1944, that the Russian Consulate of San Francisco, California, was attending to the invitations for the reception to be held under the auspices of the American Russian Institute at San Francisco, California, in honor of Katherine Dunham the prominent dancer.

(100-370903-9, page 4)

The American Russian Institute of San Francisco, California has been declared by the Attorney General to be within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

American Youth for Democracy

It was reliably reported that on February 15, 1945, the Four Freedoms Club of the American Youth for Democracy held a meeting at the Civic Center, 114 Erskine Street, Detroit, Michigan, and that the meeting was adjourned early so that the members could join in with the National Negro Congress party given for Katherine Dunham star of the "Tropical Review" which was going on in the same building.

(61-777-15-251, pg. 9)

The American Youth for Democracy and the National Negro Congress were both cited by the Attorney General as organizations within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

The Communist Party

The "Worker" New York City, issue of October 10, 1943, contained an article captioned "Ben Davis Candidacy Aroused National Interest." This article set forth information concerning the efforts which were being made to elect Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., a Communist Party candidate for the position of City Councilman for Manhattan. The article set forth that Katherine Dunham was one of the individuals backing the candidacy of Benjamin J. Davis, Jr.

(100-149163-A)

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The Committee on Un-American Activities, U.S. House of Representatives, 80th Congress, First Session, issued a booklet captioned "Report on Civil Rights Congress" dated February 15, 1947. On page 25 and 26 of this booklet an article is quoted from the "Daily Worker" issue of October 7, 1946, which sets forth that on the eve of the reopening of the court suit to bar the Communist Party from the New York State ballot, that certain leaders condemned the drive against minority party electoral rights as an assault on the American principal of free elections. The article reflects that a declaration was issued by the Civil Rights Congress of New York, defending the right of the Communist Party to appear on the ballot. One of the signers of the declaration according to the article was Katherine Dunham, dancer.

(61-10149-540)

Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee

536

A confidential informant of known reliability advised in March, 1944, that Katherine Dunham had agreed to have her troupe perform for the benefit of the San Francisco Branch of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee.

A confidential informant who is believed to be reliable advised in June, 1944, that a Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee party was to be held in Chicago, Illinois, at the home of [redacted] and that Katherine Dunham was to be the guest of honor.

(100-370903-9)

The "Daily Worker" New York City issue of November 25, 1948, contains an article captioned "Marcantonio to Speak at Free Spain Rally, December 6." The article set forth that Congressman Vito Marcantonio would address the Liberation Rally for Spain to be held in New York City on December 6, 1948, under the auspices of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee. The article set forth that the Katherine Dunham dancers would entertain.

(100-28126-A)

Tolson
Ladd
Nichols
Belmont
Clegg
Glavin
Harbo
Rosen
Tracy
Laughlin
Mohr
Winterrowd
Tele. Rm.
Holloman
Gandy

The Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee was cited by the Attorney General as an organization within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

National Council of American Soviet Friendship, Incorporated

A confidential and reliable informant in October, 1945, advised that Katherine Dunham was one of the Vice-Chairmen of the New York Branch of the National Council of American Soviet Friendship, Incorporated.

(100-326-34-36, page 9)

The National Council of American Soviet Friendship, Incorporated, was cited by the Attorney General as an organization within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

Peoples Educational Center

There was made available to a representative of this Bureau a copy of the "Sounding Board" publication of the Student Council of the Peoples Educational Center, Los Angeles, California, issue of July, 1944. An article in this publication stated that Katherine Dunham was teaching Master Classes in Primitive Rhythm at Dave Kings Studio, 1105 North Serrano in Los Angeles, California.

(100-24718-12, page 58)

The Peoples Educational Center was cited by the Attorney General as an organization within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

Philadelphia School of Social Science

A confidential and reliable informant advised that the Philadelphia School of Social Science on December 16, 1944, gave a reception in honor of Katherine Dunham the dancer. Informant advised at that time Dunham gave a scholarship to the school to be awarded to a promising Negro student of the dance.

(100-154799-38; 61-777-37-113, page 23)

The Philadelphia School of Social Science was cited by the Attorney General as an organization within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

Contact With Soviet Consul, New York City

A confidential and reliable informant advised that on November 16, 1946, Katherine Dunham, the well-known dancer made an appointment to see the Consul General of the Soviet Consulate in New York City. (100-829-916, page 27 & 28)

Southern Conference for Human Welfare

The "Worker" issue of August 25, 1946, contains an article captioned "Artists Sponsor Campaign for South." The article set forth that a group of artists have joined the Sponsoring Committee of the "Lend a Hand to Dixie Land" to raise a hundred thousand dollars for educational and legislative work in the south, which was being handled under the auspices of the New York City Committee of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. The article listed Katherine Dunham as one of the sponsors. (100-10355-A)

The Southern Conference for Human Welfare was cited as a Communist front organization by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities in its Report dated March 29, 1944.

The Worker's Party

A confidential informant of known reliability advised that on November 12, 1944, at a regular meeting of the Branch Executive Committee of the Worker's Party, Detroit, Michigan, it was decided to hold a theatre party and approximately $18 was appropriated from the treasury for the purpose of purchasing a block of tickets for a dance recital to be given by Katherine Dunham at the Cass Theatre in Detroit, Michigan. (100-86590-15-26, page 7)

The Worker's Party was cited by the Attorney General as an organization within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

No investigation has been conducted by the FBI concerning Katherine Dunham.

The above information is furnished for your confidential use only and is not to be distributed outside of your agency. This is the result of an FBI file check only and is not to be considered as a clearance or non-clearance of the individual involved.

DO-6

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OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

April 8, 1948

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
[redacted]
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Jones
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

The attached was forwarded to the Director by Walter Winchell. The notations thereon read:

"Rose to J.E.H. Then for L.L." and "Hello [redacted]

Attachment
mt

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/13/00 BY SP4 bjs/tcg

May 22, 1953

KATHERINE DUNHAM AKA PRATT
Born: June 22, 1912
Chicago, Illinois

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This information is being furnished as a result of your request for an FBI file check only and is not to be considered as a clearance or nonclearance of the individual involved.

A search of the records of this Bureau failed to locate any data pertinent to your inquiry other than that which is set forth below.

For information concerning the subject of your inquiry, you are referred to the files of the following agencies:

Memorandum dated March 18, 1953, captioned "Katherine Dunham Pratt, aka, Katherine Dunham."

100-334795-3

Orig to State
Reason given: Educational Exchange Service.

[redacted] br

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/13/00 BY [illegible]

G. I. R. -3

RECORDED -7- 100-334795-4

23 MAY 1953

LVAISC

53 JUN 4 1953

Congress party given for Katherine Dunham, star of the "Tropical Revue" which was going on in the same building.

(61-777-15-251 p. 9)

The American Youth for Democracy and the National Negro Congress have been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

A confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past, in October, 1945, advised that Katherine Dunham was one of the Vice-Chairmen of the New York Branch of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Incorporated.

(100-326-34-36- p. 9)

The National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Incorporated, has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

A confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that on November 16, 1946, Katherine Dunham, the well-known dancer, made an appointment to see the Consul General of the Soviet Consulate in New York City.

(100-829-916 p. 27 & 28)

The "Worker," the Sunday edition of the "Daily Worker" an east coast Communist newspaper, in the August 25, 1946, issue contained an article captioned "Artists Sponsor Campaign for South." The article set forth that a group of artists have joined the Sponsoring Committee of the "Lend A Hand to Dixie Land" to raise a hundred thousand dollars for educational and legislative work in the South, which was being handled under the auspices of the New York City Committee of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. The article listed Katherine Dunham as one of the sponsors.

(100-10355-A)

The Southern Conference for Human Welfare was cited as a Communist front by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities in its report dated March 29, 1944, page 147.

(100-334795-3)

A confidential informant who has furnished reliable information in the past stated that an article appearing in the "Excelsior Daily," a Spanish-speaking newspaper, dated

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MAILED
DEC 20 1955
NAME CHECK

December 19, 1955

KATHERINE ~~DUNHAM~~ SUMMARY
Born: June 22, 1910
Chicago, Illinois

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In connection with your inquiry there is attached one copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] San Antonio, Texas, dated October 23, 1944, which was submitted in connection with the case entitled "Katherine Dunham; Security Matter - C; Foreign Travel Control." There are also enclosed two reports of an investigation conducted by the FBI concerning [redacted] which contain considerable information concerning Katherine Dunham who may be identical with the subject of your present inquiry.

(100-334795-138-1637 p.7)

For your further information the files of this Bureau contain the following additional information.

A confidential informant who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that on November 12, 1944, at a regular meeting of the Branch Executive Committee of the Workers Party, Detroit, Michigan, it was decided to hold a theatre party, and approximately $18 was appropriated from the treasury for the purpose of purchasing a block of tickets for a dance recital to be given by Katherine Dunham at the Cass Theatre in Detroit, Michigan.

(100-86590-15-26 p. 7)

The Workers Party has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

A confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past reported that on February 15, 1945, the Four Freedoms Club of the American Youth for Democracy held a meeting at the Civic Center, 114 Erskine Street, Detroit, Michigan, and that the meeting was adjourned early so that the members could join in with the National Negro

Enclosures (3)
Orig. and one to USIA
Req rec'd: 11-25-55
[redacted]:tar
(4)
(100-334795)

RECORDED - 19
INDEXED - 19 100-334795-5

NOTE: Summary of information on subject sent State 3-18-53. (100-334795). Complete summary sent State, not sent USIA inasmuch as most of the information contained in 138-1637-8).

EX. - 130

DEC 21 1955

52 DEC 28 1955

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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b7D

February 5, 1953, contained information that [redacted] renowned writer and Communist, was then residing in Cuernavaca, Mexico. According to the informant, [redacted] was stated in the article to have been expelled from the United States in August, 1951, because of his Communist activities; that he came to Cuernavaca, from the State of Morelos, Mexico, where he united with [redacted] Katherine Dunham, Aaron Copeland, pianist and composer, and [redacted] The article stated that this group had created quite a stir in that city and that last year they sang in loud voice the Communist International.

(64-200-221-1349, Source - [redacted]

You may also wish to consult the files of the Civil Service Commission, their number (2).24.53.1694, and the records of the House Committee on Un-American Activities for possible further information concerning the captioned individual. (100-334795)

The foregoing information is furnished to you as a result of your request for an FBI file check and is not to be construed as a clearance or a nonclearance of the individual involved. This information is furnished for your use and should not be disseminated outside of your agency.

-2-

NUMEROUS REFERENCE 4-22a

SEARCH SLIP

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Subj: Dunham, Katherine

Supervisor _____ Room _____

R# 93 Date 11-30 Searcher Initial 206

DEC 5 1955

FILE NUMBER	SERIAL
Mtd from Sum Ltd	1-18-53
I 100-334795	
I 100-334795-3	Sum 3-18-53
I 64-200-221-1349 p.7	
NI 105-39762-6	
SI 138-2065-3 to main	R108
SI 77-62238-25	
SI 138-14-122	R108
I 138-1637-1	R108
100-340922-A	N.Y. news 5-7-53
SI 121-19541-36 to 77 file	
100-63240-64 E.p.4	
Katharine Dunham (Vas)	
61-7558-596-E.p.301	
116-170681-4	
100-17139-42	
Catherine	
100-20604-17	
100-135 sub. 47-22	
NI	
SI 100-3 sub. 23-458 to 77 file	
65-49213-129 p.11	
SI 100-325498-6 to 77-62238-25	

NUMEROUS REFERENC[illegible] 4-22a

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: Katherine Dunham

Supervisor _____ Room _____

R# 93 Date 11-30 Searcher Initial S-206

FILE NUMBER	SERIAL
Catherine	R 42
~~61-7582-1298 p.106 INC~~	
SI to main file 61-10149-486 p.71	
100-57453-278 p.29, 43	
Rept in 7513-Justice 121-23278-267 x 128 p.153	
100-11507-133	
100-253014-1	
100-203581-1825	

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED~~
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/13/00 BY SP-4 [illegible]

① 100-334795-138-1637

③ 100-86590-15-26 p7

① 61-777-15-251-p9

③ 100-326-34-36 p9

④ 100-829716 p27+28

⑥ 100-10355-A

100-[illegible]

⑦ 100-334795-3

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED on this envelope
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-13-00 BY [illegible]

98

ENCLOSURE
100-334795-6

100-034795-6

(5-31-56)

U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE

161- HQ-4870 Sec. 1
Serials 1---

FEDERAL BUREAU

of

INVESTIGATION

DO NOT DESTROY

FOIPA# 1072069

b2

USE CARE IN HANDLING THIS FILE

Transfer-Call

SHAW-WALKER 16-26986

PF

1/23/67

Airtel

To: SACs, Washington Field - Enc. (5)
Chicago - Enc.
New York - Enc.
Los Angeles - Enc.
San Francisco - Enc.
Legat Mexico - Enc.

79 sent

Nov 1/24/67 Per Brack

3

From: Director, FBI

KATHERINE DUNHAM
SPI
BUDED: 2/2/67

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White House has requested investigation of Dunham who is being considered for Presidential appointment, position involved not indicated. Born 1/22/09 Chicago, Illinois, and presently resides in New York City area where she is affiliated with Dunham School in New York City. Background data attached. See Who's Who for additional background.

Assign immediately to experienced and sufficient personnel. Results of this investigation must reach Bureau on or before deadline date.

SPIN.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/7/00 BY SP-4 [illegible]

1 - Foreign Liaison Unit (Route through for review)

NOTE: Request received from White House today.

MAILED 9
JAN 23 1967
COMM-FBI

REC 1 MCT-3

161 - 4870 -

JAN 24 1967

EX 101

WHB:pmn
(15)

2 ENCLOSURE

301 WVC

61 MAR 2 1967

Tolson
DeLoach
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Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☑ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Return to Mr. Burke, Room 1254.

1 x

Rcd 1-20-67 JW

THE WHITE HOUSE
Washington

MEMORANDUM

January 19, 1967

TO : [redacted] FBI

FROM : Mildred Stegall

SUBJECT : FBI Investigation

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b7C

Subject's Name DUNHAM, Katherine

Date of Birth January 22, 1909 Place of Birth Chicago, Ill.

Present Address Habitation Leclerc, Port-Au-Prince, Haiti

Dunham School · New York City

[redacted] has requested:

- [ ] Copy of Previous Report
- [ ] Name Check
- [XX] Full Field Investigation

The person named above is being considered for:

- [ ] White House staff position
- [XX] Presidential appointment
- [ ] Position with another Agency

airtel 1/23/67
wfo
Cg
Dy
LA
Sf
Legat, Mexico
WHB/pmn

ATTACHMENTS:

- [ ] SF 86 (in duplicate)
- [ ] SF 87, Fingerprint Card
- [XX] Biography

REMARKS:

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY SP4bjaltcg

REPORT SHOULD BE DELIVERED BY FBI TO: MILDRED STEGALL

ENCLOSURE 161-4870-1

7 Xerox

BIOGRAPHIC DATA

DUNHAM, Katherine
Age 57 (Born January 22, 1909 in Chicago, Illinois)

Home: Habitation Leclerc
Port-Au-Prince, Haiti
Dunham School
New York City

PRESENT POSITION

Dancer, Director, Producer and Author

EDUCATION

	Student, University of Chicago
1936	Special field training for West Indies Research, Northwestern University
1936-37	Julius Rosenwald Travel Fellowship to West Indies

FAMILY DATA

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Married [redacted] with one daughter

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

1934	First major dance performance at the Chicago World's Fair
1935-36	With Chicago Opera Company
1938	Ballet L'Ag'ya for Federal Theatre
1939	Supervisor, City Theatre Writer's Project on cult studies, Chicago
1939-40	Dance director, Labor Staff, New York
1940	Appeared in productions, including Cabin in the Sky, Carnival of Rhythm, Star Spangled Rhythm, Stormy Weather
1942	Choreographer, Pardon My Sarong
1943	Guest artist, San Francisco Symphony Orchestra
1943-44	Toured Tropical Revue
1945	Appeared with Los Angeles Symphony Orchestra; Established Katherine Dunham School of Cultural Arts, Inc., New York; organized Katherine Dunham Dance Company
1945	Co-staged, choreographed and appeared in Carib Song
1946	Choreographer, Windy City
1946-47	Starred in on Broadway, Bal Negre
1947	Motion picture, Casbah with company in Mexico

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY SP-4 Aga/tcg

ENCLOSURE 161 - 4870 - 1

1948	Toured cross country with Bal Negre and New Tropical Revue
1948-49	Toured in various European and Asian countries
1961-now	Established school in Port-Au-Prince
1963-now	Established Dunham School, New York City
1962	Production of Bamboche on Broadway
1963	Choreographed Aida, Metropolitan Opera
1964	Staged dances for Esso World Theatre

ALSO

Decorated Haitian Legion of Honor and Merit
Member: American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers; American Guild of Music Artists; American Guild of Variety Artists; American Federation of Radio Artists; American Actors' Equity Guild; Negro Artists' Guild
Author of several publications and books
Contributions to Esquire magazine under pseudonym of K. Dunn

b2
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4-22 (Rev. 1-22-60)

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Branch

1/23 1967

- [x] Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
- [ ] Service Unit - Room 6524
- [x] Forward to File Review
- [ ] Attention
- [x] Return to Buffer - 1254 - [redacted]
  Supervisor Room Ext.

Type of References Requested:
- [ ] Regular Request (Analytical Search)
- [x] All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
- [ ] Subversive References Only
- [ ] Nonsubversive References Only
- [ ] Main _____ References Only

Type of Search Requested:
- [ ] Restricted to Locality of _____
- [ ] Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
- [ ] Buildup [ ] Variations

JAN 26 1967

Subject Katherine Dunham
Birthdate & Place
Address

Localities

R# [illegible] Date 1/23 Searcher Initials 117

Prod. 5

	FILE NUMBER	SERIAL
	UTD 100-334795	SS 11/30/55
	100-334795 I	
	100-334795-3	Summary 3/18/53
	100-334795-5	Summary 12/19/55
I	62-5-16537, 19772	
	Pratt, Katherine (AKA)	
	SI	
	[redacted]	
	Dunn, K. (AKA)	
	ND	

nam check [illegible] 6/25/63 + 6/8/64

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/7/00 BY SP4 [illegible]
#912444

4-22 (Rev. 1-22-60)

b6
b7C

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Branch

_____, 19__

- [ ] Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
- [ ] Service Unit - Room 6524
- [ ] Forward to File Review
- [ ] Attention _____
- [x] Return to Burke 1254
  Supervisor Room Ext.

Type of References Requested:

- [ ] Regular Request (Analytical Search)
- [ ] All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
- [ ] Subversive References Only
- [ ] Nonsubversive References Only
- [ ] Main _____ References Only

Type of Search Requested:

- [ ] Restricted to Locality of _____
- [ ] Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
- [ ] Buildup [ ] Variations

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-7-00 BY SP-Dayi Hcg
#912444

Subject Katherine Dunham
Birthdate & Place 1/22/09
Address Chicago
Dancer, Producer (etc)
Localities _____

R# 652 Date 1/2 Searcher Initials Bm
Prod. M

FILE NUMBER	SERIAL
31-69318	M# Rec 2
63-3470	
100-334795	(you have)
161-POC 1/25	(you have)
100-334795-3	Sum 3/18/55
-5	Sum 12/19/55
31-68496-21	
-39	
-49	
-74	
-77	
-80	
-133	
JAN 23 1967	
-166	
-233	
-237	
-240	
-251	
39-915-2561	

4-22a (Rev. 11-17-59)

2

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

b6
b7C

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: Katherine Dunham

Supervisor Burke Room 1254

R# 652 Date 1/26 Searcher Initial Bm

Prod. 20

FILE NUMBER	SERIAL
Katherine Dunham	
NR I 39-915	-2565X
NI [redacted]	MP 657
NI	-9 MP 65
NPT 61-777-9	-94
ST 61-777-37	-113
NPT	-116X
ST I 61-6728	-467
I 61-10149	-517 PS 29
I	-536 Cp 26
NPT 61-10471	-25
name check 62-5	-16537
L	-19772
NPT 62-95433	-2
NPT 64-200-207	-413
PT 64-200-221	-1349 P7
NPT 64-3001	-1565
NPT 65-33604	-24
NPT 65-56402	-3272X
NPT 65-56402-1	-1097 Special File 13 15
I 66-8603-1-34	-546
PT 77-62238	-25
JAN 21 1967	

4-22a (Rev. 11-17-59)

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP

Burke 3
1254

Subj: Katherine Dunham

Supervisor Burke Room 1254

R# 654 Date 1/26 Searcher Initial [illegible]

Prod. [illegible] B. 1-22-09

Home ST Park Ave
Office: 220 W. 43rd St

FILE NUMBER	SERIAL
NP I	97-781-190
SI I	100-3-4-3024
NP I	100-3-21-25 ≥, I 282
NP I	100-135-A
✓	P.M. 9/5/43
NP I	100-135-34-491
NP I	100-135-47-A
✓	Daily Worker 11/3/42,
	I 8/24/42
NP I	100-829-916 p 27, 28
SI I	(JAFC 100-7061-115, I 145, I SI 581
✓	I 609, I 1025, I 1032, SI 1035, SI
✓	I 1063 p 4, I 1255 p 42;
/	I 1459 p 41, L 1815 p 11,
NP I	100-7494-38
✓ I	100-7660-2622, I SI 2682
✓ I	100-10355-A
	Worker 8/25/46
NP I	100-10772-22 p 5
✓ I	100-11507-264
✓ I	100-12049-19
✓ I	100-17139-54, I 59, L 89,
NP I	100-28126-A
	Daily Worker 11/25/48

4-22a (Rev. 11-17-59)

4

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: Katherine Dunham

Supervisor Burke Room 1254

R# 630 Date 1/26 Searcher Initial Bjm

Prod:

	FILE NUMBER	SERIAL
SI	100-37732-45	
P I	100-38425-43	
P I	100-41195-32 dimen per to home	
NP I	100-61122-A Worker 11/20/43	
NP I	100-63240-64 ep4	
NP I	100-86590-15-26	
P I	(re search of [illegible] number) 100-92004-A PM 9/16/43	
P I	JAFRC - NY 100-146964-210X1 c 23.9, SI	
SI	I 6 72, A (Worker 10/10/43)	
NP I	100-154799-79 p11	
NP I	100-157464-32	
I	100-200713-46	
NP	100-202315-554 p2-p	
I	100-203581-2416, 2753, SI	
SI	I 2837	
NP I	100-235432-10	
NP I	100-247118-12 p59	

4-22a (Rev. 11-17-59)

5

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: Katherine Dunham

Supervisor Burke Room 1254

R 1030 Date 11/26 Searcher Initial BM

Prod.

FILE NUMBER	SERIAL
Katherine Dunham	
NPI 100-249539	- 8
NPII 100-292353	- 2
NPI 100-331946	- 1
NPI 100-333760	- 2
NPII 100-336803	- 3
NPI 100-337112	- 1
NPI 100-337779	- 2
NPI 100-338119	- 1
NPI 100-338892	- 1
NPX	- 275
PI 100-341902	- 2818
PI 100-343808	- 1
PI 100-350988	- 5
NPI 100-352385	- 1493
NPI 100-353037	- 3
PI 100-358144	- 3981
SEI 100-367262	- 4
PI 100-369475	- 1
PI 100-370903	- 9
NPI 100-384851	- 1
SEI 100-418429	- 6
NPI 100-431124	- 1
NPI	- 3

a (Rev. 11-17-59)

6

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP

bj: Katherine Dunham

pervisor Burger Room 1254

1654 Date 1/26 Searcher Initial Bm

od. 11 B. 1-22-09

FILE NUMBER	SERIAL
Katherine Dunham	
PI 105-39762	- 6
PI 105-113736	- 76 (woes)
PI 109-12-233	- 631
I 121-19541	- 22
	I 36
I 121-20276	- 26 P26, 42, NI (SI) 43,
I 121-03715	- 9 you have
	I 23 you have
	I 25 you have
I 121-26766	- 21 you have
SI 121-31296 (doc)	- 13
I 138-14	- 122
VI 138-1637	- 1 you have
II 138-2065	- 3
Kathryn Dunham (Var)	
VI 31-68496	- X1
SI 61-777-15	- 243
	I 251
SI 61-6728	- 484
NI 65-56402	- 2850 P115
PI 100-154799	- 38
	I 63 SI

4-22a (Rev. 11-17-59)

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP

Burke 1254

Subj: Katherine Dunham

Supervisor Burke Room 1254

R# 609 Date 11/26 Searcher Initial Bm

Prod. 01-22-09 Chicago, Ill

Dancers Producer Home in Haiti

FILE NUMBER	SERIAL
Kathryn Dunham (Var)	
I 100-154799	- 74 P44,54
I 121-23715	- 9
Katherine Ann (Bu)	
NR 63-3470	
Katherine Dunham Dancers	
I 121-26766	- 21
Katherine Dunham School	
NPI 100-69266	- 157 P10
Katherine Dunham School of cultural arts, Inc.	
NPI 100-138754	- 418 P18
Kathrine (Var)	
I 138-1637	- 1
K. Dunham	
NR 87-32423	
Mrs. K. Dunham	
NR 63-3470	
Katherine Dunham	
I 61-7558	- 596 Sp301
I 100-7061	- A Daily Worker 12/3/48
I 100-17139	- 42
I 100-340922	- A NY News 5/7/5

4-22a (Rev. 11-17-59) 8

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: Katherine Dunham

Supervisor Burke (B) Room 1254

R# [illegible] Date 1/26 Searcher Initial [illegible]

Prod. [illegible]

	FILE NUMBER	SERIAL
	Katharine Dunham	
NP I	105-8467	- 8
NP I	116-170681	- 4
	Katharine May Dunham (Var)	
NR	116-70602	
	Katherin (Var)	
✓ I	100-334795	you have
✓ I	100-149163	- A Daily Worker 10/11/43
	Catherine (Var)	
NR	31-82203	
✓ I	31-68496	- 58
✓ I		- 63
✓ I	61-7582	- 1298 P1601
✓ I	61-10149	- 446X P8
SI A I		- 486 P71
SI I	(Same as #1 of 100-334795-5	- 517 P5 - 536 P22
NP I	64-45716	- 387
NP I	65-44458	- 19 P10
NP I	65-49213	- 129 P11
NP I	100-3-23	- 458 p31
NP I	100-135-47	- 22 p5
✓ I	100-11507	- 133 p21
✓ I	100-20604	- 17
NP I	100-57453	- 278 29,43

9

4-22a (Rev. 11-17-59)

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b7C

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: Katherine Dunham

Supervisor Burke Room 1254

R# 100 Date 1/26 Searcher Initial Bjm

Prod.

FILE NUMBER		SERIAL
	Catherine	(Var)
NP I	100-203581	-1825
NT I	100-253014	-1
SI I	100-325498	-6
NT		

4-22 (Rev. 1-22-60)

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Branch

_____, 19__

- [ ] Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
- [ ] Service Unit - Room 6524
- [ ] Forward to File Review
- [ ] Attention _____
- [x] Return to Burke 1254
  Supervisor Room Ext.

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Type of References Requested:

- [ ] Regular Request (Analytical Search)
- [x] All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
- [ ] Subversive References Only
- [ ] Nonsubversive References Only
- [ ] Main _____ References Only

Type of Search Requested:

- [ ] Restricted to Locality of _____
- [ ] Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
- [ ] Buildup
- [ ] Variations

Subject Kay Dunn
Birthdate & Place _____
Address _____

Localities _____

R# 609 Date 1/27 Searcher Initials DP

Prod. 6

FILE NUMBER SERIAL

N1
N1
N1
N1
N1

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/7/00 BY SP-Hyaltag
#912444

6 37

JAN 27 1967

4-22 (Rev. 1-22-60)

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Branch

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_____, 19__

- [ ] Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
- [ ] Service Unit - Room 6524
- [ ] Forward to File Review
- [ ] Attention _____
- [x] Return to Burke 1254
  Supervisor Room Ext.

Type of References Requested:

- [ ] Regular Request (Analytical Search)
- [x] All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
- [ ] Subversive References Only
- [ ] Nonsubversive References Only
- [ ] Main _____ References Only

Type of Search Requested:

- [ ] Restricted to Locality of _____
- [ ] Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
- [x] Buildup
- [ ] Variations

Subject Albert Dunham
Birthdate & Place
Address

Localities
R# 609 Date 1-27 Searcher Initials DP
Prod.

FILE NUMBER 1315 SERIAL

—	105-34674-3006
—	3064, 2929
—	2931
N1	[redacted]
N1	
	Albert E. SI
	Albert Edward SI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY SP-4 [illegible] #912444

JAN 2[illegible] 1901

TELETYPE UNIT
JAN 27 1967
ENCODED MESSAGE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Wick
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

MR. CLEVELAND
ROOM 1246

b6
b7C

FBI NEW YORK /10/

1153 AM URGENT 1-27-67 JLW

TO DIRECTOR CHICAGO LOS ANGELES AND SAN FRANCISCO

FROM NEW YORK 161-2271 2P

KATHERINE DUNHAM, AKA MRS. JOHN THOMAS PRATT, KAY DUNN, SPI, BUDED FEB. TWO, SIXTYSEVEN

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY [illegible]

REBUTEL JAN. TWENTYTHREE, LAST.

BUSINESS ASSOCIATES, NEW YORK CITY, ADVISED APPOINTEE BORN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, JUNE TWENTYTWO, ZERO NINE. [redacted] HUSBANDS PARENTS BORN CANADA, DECEASED. APPOINTEES BROTHER, ALBERT DUNHAM, DECEASED. [redacted] ASSOCIATES ADVISED APPOINTEE MAINTAINED APARTMENT IN NEW YORK CITY AND KNOW OF NO OTHER CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES ADDRESSES. APPOINTEE CONSTANTLY ON WORLD TOURS WITH DUNHAM COMPANY DANCING TROOP, ALONG WITH HUSBAND. APPOINTEE PRESENTLY IN AFRICA AND MOROCCO.

END PAGE ONE

161-4870-2

NOT RECORDED
25 MAR 13 1967

61 MAR 27 1967

1cc distributed 301
WHB/mail in Europe

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b7C

PAGE TWO

[redacted] APPOINTEE MAINTAINS RESIDENCE PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAITI.

[redacted] PRESENTLY ASSOCIATED WITH S. HUROK ARTISTS, INC., LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

ALL OFFICES CONDUCT APPROPRIATE AGENCY CHECKS. CHICAGO VERIFY APPOINTEE'S BIRTH. LOS ANGELES INTERVIEW ASSOCIATE [redacted]

END

MLT FBI WASH D C

TELETYPE UNIT
JAN 27 1967
ENCODED MESSAGE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Wick
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

FBI NEW YORK /21

510PMURGENT 1/27/67 WMS

TO DIRECTOR' CHICAGO' AND WASHINGTON FIELD

WASHINGTON FIELD VIA WASHINGTON

FROM NEW YORK 161-2271 ,P, /1P

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY

KATHERINE DUNHAM' SPI' BUDED FEBRUARY TWO NEXT.

MR. CLEVELAND ROOM 1246

REURAIRTEL TO WASHINGTON FIELD JANUARY TWENTY THREE LAST. [redacted] THEATRE GUILD' NEW YORK CITY TODAY ADVISED APPOINTEE FIRST BECAME INVOLVED IN THE THEATRE IN CHICAGO WITH THE "CUBE THEATRE". APPOINTEE DID CHOREOGRAPHY WORK FOR [redacted],PH, IN CONNECTION WITH CHICAGO CIVIC BALLET AND CHICAGO OPERA. [redacted] SAID APPOINTEE WAS INVOLVED WITH WPA THEARTRE WHERE SHE MET HER HUSBAND WHO WAS A DESIGNER. [redacted] SAID APPOINTEE EITHER IN CONNECTION WITH A HATIAN GOVERNMENT OF BY HER SELF SET UP AN ORPHANAGE IN HAITI. AFTER WORLD WAR II WORKED CLOSELY WITH HATIAN GOVERNMENT.

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b7C
b7D

INFORMATION CONCERNING APPOINTEE,S CONNECTION WITH HATIAN GOVERNMENT BEING FURNISHED TO BUREAU FOR INFORMATION.

161-4870-3

CHICAGO INTERVIEW [redacted],PH,.

NOT RECORDED
25 MAR 13 1967

WASHINGTON FIELD VERIFY EMPLOYMENT BY WPA THEATRE.

SPIN.

END

RAK R RELAY

FBI WASH DC

TWO COPIES TO WFO

301

31 MAR 27 1967

1 - Mr. Burke

1/27/67

airtel

To: SACs, Washington Field
Chicago
New York
San Francisco
Los Angeles
Detroit
Baltimore
Seattle
Philadelphia

From: Director, FBI

KATHERINE DUNHAM
aka Katherine Pratt
Mrs. John Thomas Pratt
SPECIAL INQUIRY
BUDED: 2/2/67

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/7/00 BY SP 4 bjs/tcg

ReBuairtel 1/23/67, no cc Detroit, Baltimore, Seattle, or Philadelphia.

MAILED 3
JAN 27 1967
COMM-FBI

For information of Detroit, Baltimore, Seattle, and Philadelphia, White House has requested investigation of Dunham, famous Negro dancer and choreographer, who is being considered for Presidential appointment, position not stated. Born 1/22/09, Chicago, Illinois, and presently resides New York City area, where she is affiliated with Dunham School. See Who's Who for further background data.

Bufiles indicate that during 1940s and 1950s Dunham was a sponsor, was active in, or had dinners held in her honor by such cited organizations as Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee; Civil Rights Congress; Philadelphia School of Social Science; California Labor School; American Youth for Democracy;

161-4870-4

NOT RECORDED
25 MAR 13 1967

WHB:jmb 30 jmb
61 MAR 27 1967

MAIL ROOM ☑ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Return to Mr. BURKE, Room 1254.

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b7C

and the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Incorporated.

[redacted] wherein characterization of Dunham is included. Washington Field be particularly alert to information in CSC and HCUA files concerning Dunham. The CSC enclosure to Bureau letter which initiated investigation of Cohn contains information obtained from CSC files regarding a [redacted]. According to CSC during investigation of [redacted] neighbors indicated the building for the most part was occupied by communists and a neighbor observed a communist flag, a picture of Stalin, and several plaques on the wall of [redacted] at the aforementioned address. [redacted] held a tea for Katherine Dunham at which time the Russian national anthem was sung.

[redacted] lived with Dunham in various areas, including Los Angeles and New York. Be certain thorough investigation is conducted in this matter.

All offices thoroughly review urfiles. Make necessary recontacts and handle in accordance with current Special Inquiry standards. Baltimore check DCII.

TELETYPE UNIT
JAN 30 1967
ENCODED MESSAGE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Wick
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

MR. CLEVELAND
ROOM 1246

217 PM URGENT 1-30-67 JEL

TO DIRECTOR AND NEW YORK (NEW YORK VIA WASHINGTON)

FROM ~~SAN FROM~~ SAN FRANCISCO (161-1078)

KATHERINE CUNHAM, SPI, BUDED: TWO TWO NEXT.

RE BUREAU AIRTEL TO WFO, DATED ONE TWENTY-THREE LAST.

APPOINTEE FORMERLY EMPLOYED BY [redacted] NEW YORK CITY. SHE ALLEGEDLY LEFT HIM AFTER A DISAGREEMENT.

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NEW YORK HANDLE.

AM COPY TO THE BUREAU.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY [illegible]

END

QCC 3

FJTLV

MCS FBI WASH DC

161-4870-5

NOT RECORDED
25 MAR 13 1967

lcc destroyed
6 1 MAR 27 1967

RELAYED TO NY

FD-36 (Rev. 5-22-64)

FBI

Date: 1/30/67

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via TELETYPE _____
(Priority)

b6
b7C

(AIRMAIL)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC, NEW YORK

FROM: SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (161-1078)

KATHERINE DUNHAM, SPI, BUDED: TWO TWO NEXT.

RE BUREAU AIRTEL TO WFO, DATED ONE TWENTY-THREE LAST.

APPOINTEE FORMERLY EMPLOYED BY [redacted] NEW YORK CITY. SHE ALLEGEDLY LEFT HIM AFTER A DISAGREEMENT.

NEW YORK HANDLE.

AM COPY TO THE BUREAU.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/7/00 BY SP-4 [illegible]

6

161-4870-6

NOT RECORDED
1 JAN 31 1967

1 - Bureau
1 - San Francisco
DWK/cab
(2)

30

Approved: 61 MAR 27 1967 [signature] Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

FD-263 (Rev. 9-17-65)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DATE	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD
SAN FRANCISCO	BUREAU	1/31/67	1/24/67 - 1/31/67

TITLE OF CASE

KATHERINE DUNHAM, aka
Katherine Pratt
Mrs. John Thomas Pratt

REPORT MADE BY: [redacted]

TYPED BY: cab

CHARACTER OF CASE

SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCES: Bureau airtel to WFO, 1/27/67.
New York teletype to Bureau, 1/27/67.
Bureau airtel to WFO, 1/23/67.
San Francisco teletype to Bureau, 1/30/67.

b2
b6
b7C
b7D

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY [illegible]

INFORMANTS

Identity

[redacted]

File Where Located

100-0-1497

(Characterization of [redacted]

(Characterization of [redacted]

Case has been: Pending over one year ☐ Yes ☐ No; Pending prosecution over six months ☐ Yes ☐ No

APPROVED [signature] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

COPIES MADE:

1 - Bureau (AMSD) (RM)

1 - San Francisco (161-1078)

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

161-4870-7

NOT RECORDED
4 FEB 2 1967

Spec. Ind.

Dissemination Record of Attached Report

Agency	301			
Request Recd.				
Date Fwd.	61 MAR 27 1967			
How Fwd.				
By				

Notations

SF 161-1078
DWK/cab

b2
b6
b7C
b7D

Identity	File Where Located
[redacted]	61-288-84
	100-124-1
	(Characterization of [redacted] 100-4405-82

Other confidential informants referred to are:

[redacted] contacted by SA [redacted] on January 31, 1967.

[redacted] contacted on January 31, 1967.

[redacted]

ADMINISTRATIVE

This report is classified confidential as information from [redacted] thorugh [redacted] if disclosed, could reasonably result in identification of informants and techniques of continuing value to the Bureau.

FBI-204 (Rev. 3-3-59)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

Copy to:

Report of: [redacted] Office: San Francisco
Date: January 31, 1967

Field Office File #: 161-1078 Bureau File #:

Title: KATHERINE DUNHAM

b2
b6
b7C
b7D

Character: SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis:

KATHERINE DUNHAM resided at home of [redacted] while in San Francisco in 1943. [redacted] was CP member in 1943 according to informants. Appointee attended functions of American Russian Institute and JAFRC in 1944. She received publicity in "People's World", a west coast Communist newspaper in 1941, 1942, and 1946. Described as outstanding entertainer, specializing in the African dance. One former employer recommended her as a dancer but would not recommend her for a position of trust with U. S. Government because of former association with JAFRC and American Russian Institute. No credit or police record in San Francisco.

- RUC -

DECLASSIFIED BY [redacted]
ON 2/7/00

DETAILS:

[redacted] who is unavailable for recontact, stated on September 17, 1942, that [redacted] had advised that a couple of the DUNHAM dancers were real "Reds" and that KATHERINE DUNHAM was sympathetic.

[redacted] advised in 1942 that [redacted] held regular meetings of the Communist Party at her home

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

GROUP 1
~~Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification~~

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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[redacted] from March through June, 1942. [redacted] advised in 1945 that [redacted] was a member of the Columbus Professional Club of the Communist Party (CP) in San Francisco and that CP meetings were held at her residence [redacted] in February and March, 1945. On January 25, 1947, [redacted] stated that [redacted] attended a meeting of the [redacted] Branch of the CP and that [redacted] was one of the members expelled for security reasons.

A check of the records at the United States Probation Office, San Francisco, in 1954, showed that [redacted]

[redacted] advised on December 2, 1943, that the advanced class for CP functionaries was to be held at [redacted] home on December 15, 1943.

In March, 1944, [redacted] who is unavailable for recontact, advised that the Soviet Consulate in San Francisco was attending to the invitations being issued for the reception being held under the auspices of the American Russian Institute in honor of KATHERINE DUNHAM, the prominent dancer.

The American Russian Institute has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

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SF 161-1078
RML/cab

The following investigation was conducted by SA [redacted]

AT KENTFIELD, CALIFORNIA

On January 30, 1967, [redacted] advised that she first became acquainted with KATHERINE DUNHAM about 1942. [redacted] recalled that KATHERINE DUNHAM was brought to San Francisco for a dancing performance by DAN LONDON, Manager of the St. Francis Hotel. She stated that this performance was booked at the San Francisco Legion of Honor and was perhaps for charity. She stated that there was a problem with regard to housing for KATHERINE DUNHAM and the latter stayed at her residence for a few days. Subsequent to this, KATHERINE DUNHAM was booked for performances at the Mark Hopkins Hotel. [redacted] stated that subsequent to 1942, she has seen KATHERINE DUNHAM on a number of occasions, primarily during the latter's trips to the San Francisco area. KATHERINE DUNHAM has stayed at the [redacted] residence on two or three occasions. She considers KATHERINE DUNHAM to be a person of excellent character and reputation and one of wide cultural and educational background. She stated that she could recommend her for a position of trust and responsibility with the United States Government.

The following investigation was conducted by SA [redacted]

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

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[redacted] advised in March, 1944, that [redacted] had stated that KATHERINE DUNHAM, noted dancer, had expressed her willingness to have her troupe put on a performance for the benefit of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee (JAFRC).

The JAFRC has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States as coming within the purview of Executive Order 10450.

In November, 1945, [redacted] advised that [redacted] joined the CP about 1936 and since that time had been closely associated with various Communist and Russian groups in the United States. [redacted] stated that [redacted] was a woman of considerable means and had been a heavy contributor to Communist front groups.

In April, 1944, [redacted] who is unavailable for re-contact, stated that one DUNHAM, not otherwise identified, was said to have given a check for $1,000 for the California Labor School.

The California Labor School has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

The November 8, 1941 issue of the "People's World", a west coast Communist newspaper, carried an article concerning KATHERINE DUNHAM, the famous dancer. This article stated that she was the recipient of the Guggenheim Fellowship, had a doctor's degree in anthropology and had endorsed the Festus Coleman Committee efforts.

The Festus Coleman Committee was cited as a Communist front by the California Senate Fact-Finding Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, 1948, page 172.

The "San Francisco Chronicle" for July 18, 1942, carried an article in Herb Caen's column that KATHERINE DUNHAM, not otherwise identified, was to dance at an affair by the JAFRC at the Mural Room of the St. Francis Hotel, San Francisco.

The October 16, 1942 issue of the "People's World" stated that KATHERINE DUNHAM, not otherwise identified, had signed a petition asking Governor OLSON of California to free [redacted].

The March 31, 1944 issue of the "Labor Herald" publication of the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) Organizing Committee stated that KATHERINE DUNHAM, not otherwise identified, was to attend an affair on April 2, 1944 for the benefit of the JAFRC.

An advertisement in the "People's World" for April 19, 1946, showed the name KATHERINE DUNHAM, not otherwise identified, as a sponsor for the Festus Coleman Defense Committee.

The newspaper morgue of the "San Francisco Chronicle" checked on January 31, 1967, was found to contain no further pertinent information concerning KATHERINE DUNHAM. It is noted that the "San Francisco Examiner" no longer maintains a separate morgue.

Confidential informants having knowledge of some phases of un-American activities, including Communist activities, have no further knowledge of the Appointee.

On January 27, 1967, [redacted] San Francisco Symphony, San Francisco Opera House, stated that he had known KATHERINE DUNHAM as an artist since about 1941, but had not known her personally. He knew of nothing adverse concerning her character, loyalty, or associates. He stated he could vouch for her ability as a dancer but knew nothing concerning her academic ability or her political beliefs.

[redacted] San Francisco Symphony, San Francisco Opera House, on January 30, 1967, stated he had known KATHERINE DUNHAM since 1941 when he brought her to San Francisco to entertain at an attraction at the Civic Auditorium. During the war, she appeared in San Francisco several times at one of the theaters and at the St. Francis Hotel. [redacted] stated he was also acquainted with her husband [redacted] and had been invited by them to visit them at their home in Haiti. He stated that the Appointee was a woman of good character, had a master's degree in anthropology, was a very well educated woman, was astute and clever in her work as a dancer. He

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considered her a friend and stated that she kept herself aloof from outside activities to a great extent and concentrated entirely on her work.

He stated that during the war, her name may have been used by certain groups favoring additional civil rights for Negroes, but he did not feel that she had ever favored any organization which did not adhere to American ideals. He stated he felt he could recommend her as a loyal American citizen who associated with respectable people, was not subject to persuasion, and who bears a good reputation.

[redacted] St. Francis Hotel, on January 31, 1967, stated he had known KATHERINE DUNHAM since the early part of World War II. He stated she was an outstanding entertainer and one of the principal devotees of original African dance. He knew of nothing adverse concerning her character. He stated that during the war she associated with individuals whom he believed followed the CP line including [redacted] He stated that she had been the feature at a party given by the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee during World War II. He stated that during this time the United States and Russia were allies, and many of the groups, such as the JAFRC, used the names of prominent entertainers for their own benefits. He stated that KATHERINE DUNHAM was an intelligent woman and he could not recommend her for a position of trust with the United States Government if that position involved political responsibility. He stated he would recommend her highly for a position with the United States Government if that position involved her artistic ability. He stated he had not known her for the past 20 years and did not know what her political beliefs or activities had been during that time.

CREDIT AND POLICE RECORDS

[redacted] The following investigation was conducted by SE

A check of the files of the San Francisco Police Department and the San Francisco Retail Credit Association on January 27, 1967, showed no record for the Appointee.

FD-323 (Rev. 11-29-61)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
San Francisco, California

January 31, 1967

In Reply, Please Refer to File No. SF 161-1078

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Title KATHERINE DUNHAM

Character SPECIAL INQUIRY

Reference Report of SA [redacted] dated and captioned as above.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FD-263 (Rev. 5-1-59)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DATE	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD
MEXICO, D. F.	BUREAU	1/31/67	1/27/67 - 1/30/67

TITLE OF CASE

KATHERINE DUNHAM

REPORT MADE BY: SA [redacted]

TYPED BY: irg

CHARACTER OF CASE

SPECIAL INQUIRY

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SYNOPSIS:

No arrest record for KATHERINE DUNHAM located at Mexico, [redacted] and troupe danced in Mexico, D. F., during 6/55.

- RUC -

REFERENCE:

Bureau airtel to Legat, Mexico dated 1/23/67.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

The indices of the Legat, Mexico contained a reference to KATHERINE DUNHAM, 100-751-8, which has been destroyed. The BUfile for this reference is 100-384851.

[redacted] who has worked at the United States Embassy for thirteen years, did not recall

APPROVED NLF/ggg SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

COPIES MADE:

2 - Bureau
(1 - Liaison Section)
1 - Mexico City (161-14)

RECEIVED 2 B 1

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

161-4870-8

NOT RECORDED

18 FEB 6 1967

Spec. Ind.

DISSEMINATION RECORD OF ATTACHED REPORT

AGENCY
REQUEST RECD. 307
DATE FWD.
HOW FWD. 61 MAR 27 1967
BY

NOTATIONS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY [illegible]

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—76324-1

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MEX 161-14

DUNHAM: [redacted] who has worked at the United States Embassy for nine years, did not recall DUNHAM.

- B* -
COVER PAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

January 31, 1967

KATHERINE DUNHAM

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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The June 18, 1955 issue of EL UNIVERSAL, a Mexico, D. F., Spanish-language daily newspaper, carried an announcement of ballet performances to be given by KATHERINE DUNHAM and her troupe at the National Auditorium on June 18 and 19, 1955.

On January 30, 1967, [redacted] Cultural Attache's Office, United States Embassy, Mexico, D. F., advised that she has been employed by the United States Embassy since 1949. She said she is not personally acquainted with KATHERINE DUNHAM, but recalled seeing her dance with her troupe in Mexico, D. F., during 1955. She recalled that after attending one of her performances, she attended a function held by the Embassy in honor of KATHERINE DUNHAM and her troupe. To her knowledge, no incident occurred while the troupe was in Mexico, D. F., which would reflect upon KATHERINE DUNHAM.

[redacted] did not recall that KATHERINE DUNHAM had made a movie in Mexico during 1947, but believes that she has danced in Mexico City on occasions other than the performances in 1955.

The records of the Identification Sections of the Metropolitan Police of the Federal District and the Judicial Police of the Federal District and Territories, both Mexico City, disclosed no information identifiable with KATHERINE DUNHAM.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY SP-Hyz/Hcg

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
FEB 1 1967
TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Wick
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

FBI BALTO

457PM URGENT 2/1/67 GHR

TO DIRECTOR, WFO

FROM BALTIMORE (161-2309) (RUC)

KATHERINE DUNHAM, AKA, SPI, BUDED: FEBRUARY TWO, SIXTY SEVEN.

MR. CLEVELAND ROOM 1246

RE BUREAU AIRTEL JANUARY TWENTY SEVEN, SIXTY SEVEN. [redacted]

DEFENSE CENTRAL INDEX OF INVESTIGATIONS, DCII, CHECKED THIS DATE FOR IC [redacted] REVEALS INFORMATION POSSIBLY IDENTICAL WITH APPOINTEE LOCATED NAVAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE FILE NO ONE EIGHT NINE ONE FOUR ZERO ONE.

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WFO HANDLE.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 3/7/00 BY SP-4 bjaltcg

END

DLH

FBI WASH DC*

161-4870-9

NOT RECORDED

25 MAR 13 1967

1 cc destroyed WNBfmay

301

61 MAR 27 1967

TWO COPIES WFO

FD-263 (Rev. 9-17-65)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DATE	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD
SPRINGFIELD	BUREAU	2/1/67	2/1/67

TITLE OF CASE

KATHERINE DUNHAM, Aka
Mrs. John Thomas Pratt,
Kay Dunn

REPORT MADE BY: SA [redacted] TYPED BY: dlh

CHARACTER OF CASE

SPECIAL INQUIRY

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REFERENCE:

New York teletype to Chicago 1/27/67.
Chicago telephone call to Springfield 1/31/67.

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 3/7/00 BY [redacted]

Case has been: Pending over one year ☐ Yes ☐ No; Pending prosecution over six months ☐ Yes ☐ No

APPROVED [redacted] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

161-4870-10

NOT RECORDED
12 FEB 3 1967

COPIES MADE:

2 - Bureau
1-Springfield (161-318)

FBI - SPRINGFIELD
FEB 3 [illegible]

Dissemination Record of Attached Report				
Agency				
Request Recd.	3/27			
Date Fwd.				
How Fwd.	6 T MAR 27 1967			
By				

Notations

Spec. Ind.

- A* -
COVER PAGE

FD-204 (Rev. 3-3-59)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: SA [redacted]
Date: 2/1/67

Office: Springfield

Field Office File #: SI 161-318

Bureau File #:

Title: KATHERINE DUNHAM

b6
b7C

Character: SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis:

Applicant employed as special instructor Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois, 9/64 to 6/65. Nothing derogatory or unfavorable developed. [redacted] negative regarding DUNHAM. Arrest checks negative.

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/7/00 BY SP-4 [illegible]

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SI 161-318

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DETAILS:

AT CARBONDALE, ILLINOIS

[redacted] Southern Illinois University, advised that KATHERINE DUNHAM was employed as a distinguished visiting instructor at Southern Illinois University from September, 1964, to June, 1965, working in the theatre and assisting in productions of operas and ballets. [redacted] stated that he was personally acquainted with applicant, who is married [redacted] stated that while in Carbondale, Illinois, the applicant resided at the [redacted] stated that he knows of nothing in the background of the applicant which would tend to reflect unfavorably upon her; however, he pointed out that he was only associated with the applicant for a brief period of time while she was at Southern Illinois University.

[redacted] Southern Illinois University, advised that her records also disclose that KATHERINE DUNHAM was a visiting professor at Southern Illinois University from September, 1964, to June, 1965. [redacted] indicated that her records disclose DUNHAM was born in Chicago, Illinois, date unknown, and attended high school at Joliet, Illinois, and the University of Chicago. DUNHAM is the owner of the Katherine Dunham School of Culture and Arts, Incorporated, New York, New York.

[redacted] advised that [redacted] further added that there is nothing in the files of Southern Illinois University which tends to reflect unfavorably upon the applicant [redacted]

[redacted] Jackson County Credit Bureau, advised that her records contain information indicating that [redacted] stated further that her records contain no information concerning applicant.

[redacted] Carbondale Police Department, advised his records contain no arrest information of any type pertaining to applicant [redacted]

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SI 161-318

AT MURPHYSBORO, ILLINOIS

[redacted] Jackson County, stated his records were negative pertaining to applicant [redacted]

FD-263 (Rev. 9-17-65)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DATE	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD
DETROIT	BUREAU	2/1/67	1/30 - 2/1/67

TITLE OF CASE

KATHERINE DUNHAM, aka
Katherine Pratt
Mrs. John Thomas Pratt

REPORT MADE BY: SA [redacted]

TYPED BY: GMC

CHARACTER OF CASE

SPI

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REFERENCE: Bureau airtel to WFO, 1/27/67.

- RUC -

ADMINISTRATIVE

[redacted]

No indication in Detroit files that [redacted] personally acquainted with DUNHAM.

[redacted]

Case has been: Pending over one year ☐ Yes ☐ No; Pending prosecution over six months ☐ Yes ☐ No

APPROVED

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

COPIES MADE:

1 - Bureau (AMSD)

1 - Detroit (161-673)

161-4870-11

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY SP-4 [illegible]

NOT RECORDED

12 FEB 3 1967

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Dissemination Record of Attached Report

Agency				
Request Recd.				
Date Fwd.				
How Fwd.				
By				

61 MAR 27 1967

Notations

Spec. Ind.

DE 161-673

Review of "Who's Who" determined no leads for Detroit. No lead material contained in Detroit files.

INFORMANT

Identity of Source	Location	
[redacted]	100-2507-980	b2 b7D

FD-204 (Rev. 3-3-59)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: SA [redacted] Office: Detroit, Michigan
Date: February 1, 1967

Field Office File #: 161-673 Bureau File #:

Title: KATHERINE DUNHAM

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Character: SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis: Party given for one KATHRYN DUNHAM, Detroit, 1945, sponsored by American Youth for Democracy and National Negro Congress.

- RUC -

DETAILS:

MISCELLANEOUS

On February 15, 1945, [redacted] advised that on that date a party sponsored by the "Four Freedoms Club" of the American Youth for Democracy and the National Negro Congress was given for KATHRYN DUNHAM at the ballroom of the Civic Center at 114 Erskine, Detroit. About 150 people attended.

The American Youth for Democracy and the National Negro Congress have been designated by the Attorney General pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY [signature]

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FD-323 (Rev. 11-29-61)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

Detroit, Michigan
February 1, 1967

Title **KATHERINE DUNHAM**

b6
b7C

Character **SPECIAL INQUIRY**

Reference **Report of SA [redacted] Detroit, dated and captioned as above.**

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FD-263 (Rev. 9-17-65)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DATE	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD
SEATTLE	BUREAU	2/1/67	1/30 - 2/1/67

TITLE OF CASE

KATHERINE DUNHAM, aka
Katherine Pratt,
Mrs. John Thomas Pratt

REPORT MADE BY: SA [redacted]

TYPED BY: ams

CHARACTER OF CASE

SPECIAL INQUIRY

b6
b7C

REFERENCE: Bureau airtel to Seattle, 1/27/67.

-RUC-

ADMINISTRATIVE:

This report is being classified ~~confidential~~ inasmuch as disclosure of information contained herein might reasonably result in the identification of confidential informants and might adversely affect the national security.

INFORMANTS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY SP-4 [illegible]

Case has been: Pending over one year ☐ Yes ☐ No; Pending prosecution over six months ☐ Yes ☐ No

APPROVED

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

COPIES MADE:

1- Bureau REG.
1- Seattle (161-328)

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161-4870-12

NOT RECORDED
18 FEB 3 1967

Dissemination Record of Attached Report

Agency				
Request Recd.				
Date Fwd.				
How Fwd.				
By				

61 MAR 27 1967

Notations

SE 161-328

Identity of Source

[redacted]

(per request)

[redacted]

Location

Characterization of

[redacted]

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FD-204 (Rev. 3-3-59)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Copy to:

Report of: SA [redacted] Office: SEATTLE
Date: February 1, 1967

Field Office File #: 161-328 Bureau File #:

Title: KATHERINE DUNHAM b6 b7C

Character: SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis:

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-4 bjm/tcg
ON 2/7/00

Appointee has appeared in Seattle, Washington, in conjunction with cross-country tour of her dance group. On May 4, 1945, appointee spoke at a party to raise funds for the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee. On January 28, 1948, appointee spoke to a group of friends of the Spanish Refugee Appeal of the Joint Anti-Facist Refugee Committee.

-RUC-

DETAILS:

Credit and arrest checks at Seattle, Washington, were conducted by Investigative Clerk [redacted]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Group 1
Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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CREDIT AND ARREST

On February 1, 1967, a review of the records of the Seattle Credit Bureau, Seattle, Washington, reflected no records identifiable with the appointee.

On February 1, 1967, a review of the records of the King County Sheriff's Office and the Seattle Police Department, both Seattle, Washington, reflected no records identifiable with the appointee or her husband.

MISCELLANEOUS

On January 30, 1967, a review of Who's Who In America, Volmme 34, 1966-67, Two Years; Marquis-Who's Who Incorporated, Chicago, Illinois, reflected that the appointee had toured the United States with the "Tropical Revue" in 1943-44 and toured cross-country with "Bal Negre and New Tropical Revue" from January through April, 1948.

On May 5, 1945, [redacted] who is currently unavailable for comment, stated that the International Students House, of the University of Washington, gave a fund-raising party in honor of KATHERINE DUNHAM, prominent leader of a well-known Negro dance troupe appearing in Seattle, Washington, and that the above party was given in a private home in Seattle, Washington. [redacted] further stated that the above party was regarded as successful from a monetary standpoint, grossing over $500.00.

On May 5, 1945, an article appearing in the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Seattle, Washington, captioned "KATHERINE DUNHAM Aids Relief Drive" reflected that KATHERINE DUNHAM, noted dancer, spoke last night at a party to raise funds for the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee's Relief Program at a home in Seattle, Washington.

The Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee has been cited by the United States Attorney General under provisions of Executive Order 10450.

In the January 28, 1948, edition of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Seattle, Washington, an article appeared captioned "Miss DUNHAM Pleads For Spanish Relief", reflecting that Miss KATHERINE DUNHAM, described as a nationally famous dancer and appearing this week at the Metropolitan Theater,

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Seattle, Washington, spoke to a "group of friends of the Spanish Refugee Appeal of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee at a benefit supper at the home of [redacted]"

The article went on to say that DUNHAM told the "pathetic life story of the little Spanish refugee girl she adopted a few years ago in Mexico City and spoke of the Spanish refugees who have now adapted themselves in Mexico. She also spoke of the tremendous program being carried out all over the United States to help Spanish refugees who went to France in 1939 when there was for them no repatriation, no Red Cross, and no U.N.R.R.A."

On January 31, 1967, a review of the Seattle City Directory, 1948-49, reflects that a [redacted] was then listed as residing at [redacted]

[redacted] a former member and paid official of the Northwest District of the Communist Party from 1943 to 1953 who formerly furnished reliable information to the FBI, advised on February 28, 1949, that [redacted]

[redacted]

FD-323 (Rev. 11-29-61)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

Seattle, Washington
February 1, 1967

Title KATHERINE DUNHAM

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Character SPECIAL INQUIRY

Reference Report of SA [redacted] dated and captioned as above at Seattle, Washington.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

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FD-263 (Rev. 9-17-65)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DATE	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD
CHICAGO	BUREAU	2/1/67	1/25-31/67

TITLE OF CASE

KATHERINE DUNHAM, aka
Mrs. John Thomas Pratt,
Kay Dunn

REPORT MADE BY: SA [redacted] TYPED BY: mar

CHARACTER OF CASE

SPI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

REFERENCES: Bureau airtel to WFO, 1/23/67.
New York teletypes to Bureau, 1/27/67.
Chicago airtel to Springfield, 1/31/67.

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- RUC -

INFORMANTS

[redacted]

Current informants possessing some knowledge of Communist activities in the Chicago area prior to 1950 were contacted as follows:

- A -
COVER PAGE

CLASSIFIED BY NLS/bja 60267AMG 2/7/00
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 1

Case has been: Pending over one year ☐ Yes ☐ No; Pending prosecution over six months ☐ Yes ☐ No

APPROVED MJ/RR SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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COPIES MADE:

(1) - Bureau (AMSD)

1 - Chicago (161-1413)

161-4870-13 REC- 25

~~NOT~~ RECORDED
3 FEB 3 1967

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Dissemination Record of Attached Report

Agency				
Request Recd.				
Date Fwd.	3-01			
How Fwd.	61 MAR 2 7 1967			
By				

Notations

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CG 161-1413

INFORMANT	DATE CONTACTED	CONTACTED BY
[redacted]	1/25/67	SA [redacted]
	1/31/67	SA
	1/26/67	SA
	1/25/67	SA
	1/31/67	SA
	2/1/67	SA
	2/1/67	SA

CHARACTERIZATION OF ORGANIZATION

Organization	Source
Progressive Party	CG 5824-S*

~~SECRET~~

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COVER PAGE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FD-[illegible]4 (Rev. 3-3-59)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Copy to:

Report of: SA [redacted] Office: CHICAGO
Date: 2/1/67

Field Office File #: 161-1413 Bureau File #:

Title: KATHERINE DUNHAM

Character: SPECIAL INQUIRYTION

Synopsis: Birth not verified. Education at the University of Chicago and Northwestern University verified. Appointee received a PHB Degree. No adverse credit information. Arrest checks negative. Informant advised one KATHERINE DUNHAM was listed in telephone directories of the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade. Informant advised one CATHERINE DUNHAM was associated with the Abraham Lincoln School. Newspaper articles reflect appointee purchased a ticket to a rally for HENRY A. WALLACE from the chairman of the Progressive Party and that her cast was to provide entertainment for the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee Benefit. Informants possessing some knowledge of Communist activities in the Chicago area prior to 1950 advised they have no knowledge of the appointee.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
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DETAILS:

Birth

On January 30, 1967, Investigative Clerk [redacted] checked the records of the Bureau of Vital Statistics, Cook County, Illinois, and was unable to locate any record identifiable with the appointee.

It is noted that the State of Illinois did not require the filing of birth records until 1915. No record was located identifiable with the appointee in the main index from 1880 to 1933, or in the delayed series index from 1915 to date.

Education

University of Chicago
5801 South Ellis Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

On January 26, 1967, [redacted] registrar's office, advised that her records reflect KATHERINE MARY DUNHAM, born June 22, 1909, attended that university from January 1929, to August, 1936, and received a PHB Degree in August, 1936. Her records reflect that this individual attended Northwestern University from 1934 to 1936, as an anthropology major. She said she has no other information concerning the appointee.

Northwestern University
Evanston, Illinois

On January 31, 1967, [redacted] Central Records, Northwestern University, Evanston Campus, advised SA [redacted] that KATHERINE DUNHAM, born June 22, 1909, at Chicago, entered that university as an unclassified student in February, 1935. She previously graduated from Joliet High School, Joliet, Illinois, and resided at 408 South Joliet Street, Joliet, Illinois.

The records reflect her parents as ALBERT MILLARD DUNHAM, born in Memphis, Tennessee, and ANNETTE DUNHAM, born in Winnipeg, Canada. Records indicate that the appointee was the author of a book, "Touch of Innocence". She received 11 credit hours at Northwestern University and her transcript was sent to the University of Chicago in July, 1936.

Employment

Chicago Opera Company
Chicago, Illinois

It is noted that the Chicago Opera Company is no longer in existance.

On January 26, 1967, [redacted] Lyric Opera of Chicago, 20 North Wacker Drive, advised the Chicago Opera Company ceased to exist in about 1946, and that several opera companys have been in business since that time but that the Lyric Opera is the only one currently operating. He advised that he has no knowledge of the Federal Theater or the City Theater Writers Project. He stated that he does not believe any records would be in existence from any of appointee's performances in Chicago; however, she is an internationally well-known performer and that the most likely source of any information regarding her would be newspaper files.

Cube Theater
Chicago, Illinois

It is noted that current Chicago telephone directories have no listing identifiable with the Cube Theater.

Credit and Arrest

On January 30, 1967, [redacted] Chicago Credit Bureau Incorporated, advised Investigative

Clerk [redacted] that they have an index card which reflects that Miss KATHERINE DUNHAM resides at 3638 South Parkway. This index card is dated July 10, 1937.

Personnel of the Chicago Police Department Bureau of Records and Communications, on January 31, 1967, advised Investigative Clerk [redacted] that they have no record identifiable with the appointee.

On February 1, 1967, [redacted] Joliet, Illinois, Police Department, advised SA [redacted] that she has no record of the appointee.

On February 1, 1967, [redacted] Credit Bureau of Will County, Joliet, Illinois, advised that she has no record of the appointee.

On February 1, 1967, SA [redacted] checked the records of the Will County Sheriff's Office, Joliet, Illinois, and was unable to locate any record identifiable with the appointee.

Miscellaneous

[redacted] in 1941, made available three telephone books which were used by the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade and United Spanish Aid Office. Included in this list of names and telephone numbers was KATHERINE DUNHAM, WEB 7669.

The Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

The United American Spanish Aid Committee has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

[redacted] in August, 1943, made available the names and addresses of persons directly or indirectly associated with

Abraham Lincoln School. Listed was CATHERINE DUNHAM, Room 637, Sherman Hotel.

The Abraham Lincoln School has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

[redacted] advised in 1944, that school officials want to do something for KATHERINE DUNHAM, of "Tropical Review," and that they are thinking of having [redacted] "Esquire" magazine give a cocktail party for her under the auspices of the Abraham Lincoln School.

[redacted] advised on June 10, 1944, that [redacted] was requested to make available his home for a meeting at which KATHERINE DUNHAM will be the guest of homor on June 24, 1944, or June 24, 1944.

The Chicago Sun newspaper dated June 23, 1944, contains an article titled "Mrs. Dunham Cast To Aid Refugee Benefit," which reflects that dancers and drummers from KATHERINE DUNHAM's review will provide entertainment at a benefit party for the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee to be held at the [redacted]

The article further reflects that "the affair is a part of the committee's summer campaign to raise funds for a new refugee hospital in Mexico City.

The Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

The Chicago Star newspaper dated February 28, 1949, contained a photograph of KATHERINE DUNHAM, [redacted] with the following caption:

"The first two tickets to a rally for Henry A. Wallace at the Chicago Stadium Saturday evening, April 10, are purchased by Katherine Dunham, Star of Tropical Revue, and former Attorney General Robert W. Kenny, National Chairman of the Progressive Citizens of America from George R. Cermak, Chairman of the Progressive Party."

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CG 161-1413

Information concerning the Progressive Citizens of America and the Progressive Party is contained in the appendix section at the end of this report.

The Chicago Tribune newspaper dated October 31, 1955, contained an article which reflects that KATHERINE DUNHAM was then appearing at the Great Northern Theater of Chicago. Costumes were designed by her husband [redacted]

The Chicago Tribune newspaper dated December 11, 1949, reflects that "Doris Duke's ex-mate bought a nude painting by Katherine Dunham. Dateline Paris, December 10, reflects that, "Katherine Dunham, Negro dancing star and a former student at the University of Chicago, studying native dances in Haiti under a Rosenwald Fund Grant, has sold one of her paintings for $400.00 [redacted] Dominican Diplomat formerly married to Doris Duke. It depicts a nude admiring herself in a mirror.

The Chicago American newspaper dated October 26, 1938, contained an article captioned, "Negro Dancer To Open Series," which reflects that Katherine Dunham, born in Chicago, graduate of Joliet High School and attended the University of Chicago winning a Bachelor of Science Degree in 1936, resides at 3628 South Parkway. Her brother is Professor ALBERT DUNHAM, Jr., age 31, of the Sociology Department of Howard University, Washington, D. C. The article further reflects that she is currently working with [redacted] the University of Chicago for a federal writers project.

The Chicago Daily News, dated June 29, 1935, contained an article regarding scholarship awards and reflects a Chicago dancer, KATHERINE DUNHAM, is to start a tour of study in the West Indies this month by benefit of a Fellowship of the JULIUS ROSENWALD Fund. The article reflects that for the past three months she has been preparing for her expedition by studying under [redacted] of Northwestern University, an authority on anthropology of the Negro, particularly in Haiti, the West Indies, and the Guineas.

The article further reflected that in 1929 Miss DUNHAM was a member of the Masque-Cube Group of Little Theater Players appearing at the Cube Theater in Hyde Park, Illinois. The article further reflected that in December, 1929, she organized a group for the studying of the ballet [redacted] are not available for recontact.

Informants possessing some knowledge of Communist activities in the Chicago area prior to 1950, advised they have no knowledge of the appointee.

CG 161-1413

APPENDIX

PROGRESSIVE CITIZENS OF AMERICA

Cited the Progressive Citizens of America as a "new and broader Communist front for the entire United States" formed in September, 1946, at the direction of "Communist steering committees" from the "Communist-dominated National Citizens Political Action Committee" and the Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions.

(California Committee on Un-American Activities, Reports of 1947, page 369, and 148, page 354.)

PROGRESSIVE PARTY

"The Progressive Party, including its California branch, certainly ranks as one of the largest and most successful fronts ever created by the Communists."

(Committee on Un-American Activities, Annual Report for 1956, House Report 53, February 11, 1957, page 34.)

"Communist dissimulation extends into the field of political parties forming political front organizations such as the Progressive Party*** The communists are thus enabled to present their candidates for elective office under other than a straight communist label."

(Internal Security Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Handbook for Americans, S. Doc 117, April 23, 1956, page 91.)

A source advised on May 14, 1956, that from all indications the Progressive Party of Illinois was no longer in existence inasmuch as there have been no recent meetings or campaign for funds held since early 1955.

FD-323 (Rev. 11-29-61)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Chicago, Illinois
February 1, 1967

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

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Title KATHERINE DUNHAM

Character SPECIAL INFORMATION

Reference Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated and captioned as above.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

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FD-263 (Rev. 9-17-65)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DATE	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD
LOS ANGELES	BUREAU	2/1/67	1/24 - 1/31/67

TITLE OF CASE

KATHERINE DUNHAM, aka
Katherine Pratt
Mrs. John Thomas Pratt
Kay Dunn

REPORT MADE BY: [redacted]

TYPED BY: kfh

CHARACTER OF CASE

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REFERENCES: Bureau airtel to Los Angeles 1/23/67
New York teletype to Bureau 1/27/67
Bureau airtel to Los Angeles 1/26/67

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Cover Page

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY SP-4 [illegible]

Case has been: Pending over one year ☐ Yes ☐ No; Pending prosecution over six months ☐ Yes ☐ No

APPROVED WWHC

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

COPIES MADE:

1 - Bureau (AIR MAIL)

1 - Los Angeles (161-1132)

161-4870-14

NOT RECORDED

15 FEB 3 1967

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Dissemination Record of Attached Report

Agency				
Request Recd.	301			
Date Fwd.	61 MAR 27 19[illegible]			
How Fwd.				
By				

Notations

Spec. Ind.

FD-204 (Rev. 3-3-59)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: [redacted]
Date: February 1, 1967

Office: Los Angeles, California

Field Office File #: 161-1132

Bureau File #:

Title: KATHERINE DUNHAM

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Character: SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis:

No credit or arrest record located concerning the appointee. An associate of the appointee recommends. [redacted] who was a subject of an FBI investigation in 1944, along with CHARLES CHAPLIN and others in a violation of civil liberties (conspiracy) case, admitted to agents in 1944, that he was acquainted with and associated with the appointee. An acquaintance (now deceased) of [redacted] told FBI Agents in 1944 that [redacted] an intimate relationship in the early 1940's, although she cannot recall seeing any open display of such.

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LA 161-1132

DETAILS:

This investigation was conducted as follows:

SA [redacted] — Interview of [redacted] at Los Angeles, California

SA [redacted] — Santa Monica, California

SA [redacted] — Beverly Hills, Santa Monica, and Los Angeles, California

IC [redacted] — Retail Merchants Credit Association, Los Angeles, California

IC [redacted] — Los Angeles Police Department and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office, Los Angeles, California

SE [redacted] — Newspaper libraries of the "Los Angeles Times" and the "Los Angeles Herald Examiner", Los Angeles, California

ASSOCIATE

On January 31, 1967, [redacted] Popular Division, Hurok Attractions Inc., West Coast, 8255 Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, advised she has been acquainted with KATHERINE DUNHAM since 1941 or 1942. She said she considers DUNHAM to be one of her best friends. [redacted] said she originally met DUNHAM in Los Angeles, California, on a social basis. [redacted] said that from about 1944 to 1947, she traveled with DUNHAM [redacted] for DUNHAM'S touring dance troupe. [redacted] which

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DUNHAM presented in 1962 in New York City, New York. [redacted] said she also worked for DUNHAM for a short period of time in the mid 1940's at the Katherine Dunham School of Cultural Arts in New York City. [redacted] said she has had no contact with DUNHAM for the past two and one-half years and has no knowledge of DUNHAM'S current activities.

[redacted] said she is acquainted with DUNHAM'S husband, [redacted] and considers him to be a very thoughtful and respectable person. [redacted] said that DUNHAM'S husband traveled with DUNHAM'S dance troupe prior to their marriage and was employed as DUNHAM'S designer.

[redacted] said she has always admired DUNHAM as a person and as an artist. [redacted] said DUNHAM'S [redacted] DUNHAM adopted this daughter many years ago in France. She said DUNHAM'S daughter's true mother was a French woman and the father was an American Negro soldier.

[redacted] commented very favorably concerning DUNHAM'S character, associates, reputation, and loyalty. She said that on many occasion while touring in foreign countries, DUNHAM has had opportunities to criticize the treatment of the Negro in American society, but she has always refused to do so and has always pointed out the opportunities available to minority groups and individuals in America. [redacted] said that DUNHAM has always associated with "theater" and "art" type people as well as people of fairly high social standing. [redacted] said she knew of no organizations to which DUNHAM belongs, other than possible membership in theater organizations.

[redacted] said from her knowledge of DUNHAM, she would highly recommend DUNHAM for a high position of trust with the United States Government.

[redacted] said she recalls that in the early 1940's, DUNHAM associated with [redacted] who at that time was a producer at United Artists Studios. [redacted] was a great admirer of DUNHAM as a dancer and had some plans to produce a motion picture

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using DUNHAM in a major acting role. She said this picture was never produced. [redacted] DUNHAM and she believed that DUNHAM [redacted] possibly attended some parties and dinners together. [redacted] said she believed [redacted] might have been exploiting his friendship with DUNHAM because at that time DUNHAM was a famous dancer, while [redacted] was comparatively unknown. She said some rumors and gossip were possibly developed concerning DUNHAM'S and [redacted] association due to DUNHAM'S race. [redacted] said, however, she could recall nothing significant or unusual about the relationship between DUNHAM and [redacted] said she always considered DUNHAM to have high moral character.

CREDIT AND ARREST

On January 27, 1967, records of the following credit bureau and law enforcement agencies were caused to be searched concerning the appointee, KATHERINE DUNHAM, also known as Katherine Pratt, Mrs. John Thomas Pratt, and Kay Dunn, with negative results:

Retail Merchants Credit Association
Los Angeles, California

Los Angeles Police Department
Los Angeles, California

Los Angeles County Sheriff's
Office
Los Angeles, California

MISCELLANEOUS

On January 26, 1967, records of the "Los Angeles Herald Examiner" and "Los Angeles Times" newspaper libraries were caused to be searched concerning the appointee, KATHERINE DUNHAM, also known as Katherine Pratt, Mrs. John Thomas Pratt, and Kay Dunn. An article

concerning DUNHAM appeared in the "Los Angeles Times" May 7, 1950 edition in which DUNHAM denied any romantic relationship between her and [redacted] DUNHAM described this matter as ridiculous and stated "I do hope that the case of Dunham [redacted] is herewith forever closed".

Another article appeared in the "Los Angeles Times" March 27, 1960 edition, which was a commentary by FRANCES RING on DUNHAM'S book entitled "A Touch of Innocence". This commentary was a short synopsis concerning DUNHAM'S book which dealt with her early life. The commentary was highly complimentary. b6 b7C b7D

An article appeared in the "Los Angeles Times" October 31, 1941 edition which was highly complimentary of DUNHAM and her dancing troupe's three night engagement at the Biltmore Theater in Los Angeles, California.

The "Los Angeles Herald Examiner" carried essentially the same articles described above.

DUNHAM shows that she appeared with the Los Angeles Symphony Orchestra in 1945.

On January 26, 1967, [redacted] Music Commission, Los Angeles Music Center, Los Angeles, California, advised she could locate no record concerning KATHERINE DUNHAM having ever appeared with the Los Angeles Symphony Orchestra. She said this would indicate that DUNHAM possibly made a guest appearance with that orchestra. She said the only person remaining with the Los Angeles Symphony Orchestra who might possibly recall DUNHAM, is the present [redacted]

On January 26, 1967, [redacted] Los Angeles Symphony Orchestra, Los Angeles, California, advised he was not associated with that orchestra during the time KATHERINE DUNHAM reportedly

appeared with the orchestra. [redacted] however, located an old publicity poster which reflects KATHERINE DUNHAM appeared with her entire troupe at the Hollywood Bowl on July 28 and July 29, 1944. [redacted] could locate no one presently with the orchestra who recalled DUNHAM.

In 1944, the FBI conducted an investigation concerning the case entitled:

"CHARLES SPENCER CHAPLIN;

[redacted]

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VIOLATION OF CIVIL LIBERTIES;
VIOLATION OF CIVIL LIBERTIES
(CONSPIRACY)"

On May 15, 1944, United States Attorney CHARLES H. CARR, Los Angeles, California, appeared before Federal Judge J. F. T. O'CONNOR and recommended dismissal of the indictments against CHAPLIN, [redacted] At that time CARR stated in open court that he had received written instructions from the Department of Justice in Washington, D. C., requesting him to take such steps. Judge O'CONNOR then dismissed the indictments.

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[redacted] He said he met CHARLES CHAPLIN through a producer at Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios in about 1939. [redacted] said about a year later CHAPLIN offered him a job which he took [redacted] He said he worked for CHAPLIN for about eight months.

[redacted] made a point to explain his financial standing, prefacing it with the statement that he had been accused of having been kept by CHARLES CHAPLIN and also had been accused of being a procurer by CHAPLIN. [redacted] said that neither of these statement were true and explained that from his rental income on his home [redacted] he received $15,000.00 a year. This home at that time was being rented by actress GRETA GARBO.

During the course of this interview, [redacted] was confronted with the fact that it had been learned that he had been closely associated with KATHERINE DUNHAM, the Negro dancer. [redacted] said he would be very glad to tell of his association with KATHERINE DUNHAM.

[redacted] said he first met DUNHAM at a night club where she was performing in about April, 1943. He said he had never known DUNHAM before that time. [redacted] said after talking to DUNHAM, he became a great admirer of hers and had a tremendous amount of respect for her as an artist. [redacted] said he developed a great affection toward DUNHAM. [redacted] said he tried to get DUNHAM into a picture at United Artists Studios and United Artists Studios was interested for a time, but finally turned the offer down.

[redacted] said that later on, DUNHAM called him from San Francisco, California, advising him that she was coming to Los Angeles, California, and asked him if he would find her a place to stay. [redacted] said that DUNHAM did not know any place to stay in Los Angeles, and being a Negro, would naturally have a hard time finding a good place to stay at that time. [redacted] said he asked DUNHAM if she wanted to stay with him. [redacted] said DUNHAM accepted the offer, came to Los Angeles, and stayed at his house. [redacted] said he still only knew DUNHAM at this time in a business capacity, but got to know her better during her stay at his house. [redacted] said his daughter was at his house during the time DUNHAM stayed there. He said he gave a party for DUNHAM and they spent some time discussing the possibility of doing a musical comedy show that fall in New York City, New York.

[redacted] said DUNHAM did go to New York City and became a terrific hit. He said he went to New York City a couple of times to see DUNHAM for both personal and business reasons. [redacted] said he was interested in DUNHAM for several reason. He said that one reason was because he had become very conscious and very much interested in the Negro as a person and as an representative of a minority group. He said he felt by projecting DUNHAM in the performing arts business, he might in some way help relieve the tension of the race riots and the racial misunderstandings. [redacted] said he had a very great and deep affection for DUNHAM and she is a very high class girl. He said as far as marriage was concerned, this had never been discussed. [redacted] said he never introduced DUNHAM as his wife like he said some people said he had done. [redacted] said he was sorry DUNHAM was not white. He said theirs was an untenable situation and she knew it as well as he.

[redacted] said that DUNHAM has a husband [redacted] who has been married to her for about five years. He said that DUNHAM'S husband [redacted] He said that DUNHAM'S husband [redacted]

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[redacted] said DUNHAM has a great capacity to give a person perspective that is very broadening and very important. [redacted] said he had been involved with DUNHAM from the point of view of affection and that he freely admitted this. [redacted] said DUNHAM is a great business asset and he hoped to exploit her talents and make some money from it, although he is suffering a great social ostracism because of this. To clarify this statement, [redacted] was asked if he meant he had been intimate with DUNHAM, was in love with her, and did not care who knew about it. [redacted] then explained, "To this extent - I don't think it is fair to ask me if I have been intimate with her. You can understand that from her point of view too. When I say I don't care who knows it, I don't want to invite trouble. I am not going to appear with her in public and take this terrific publicity, because I mean I have to make a living. I have my daughter. Most people don't understand. I mean, after all, it is a question of taste, and it is an acquired taste. It is a very strange thing for me - I mean coming from this background to feel the way I do. It's not a great exotic sexual attraction the way many people try to say. It's not without its feeling, but, it's not primarily that. It's deeper than that, and when I say I don't care who knows it, I'm not anxious to have everyone know it".

During the course of this investigation, CECIL COAN (now deceased), who was then a secretary at the United Artists Studios, Hollywood, California, was interviewed.

Among other things, COAN advised he was first employed at United Artists Studios [redacted] He said that [redacted] was added to the United Artists Studios staff as an associate producer at the request of CHARLES CHAPLIN. He said [redacted] hired him as a secretary. COAN said that [redacted] was very much in

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love with KATHERINE DUNHAM. COAN cited several instances of how he had to cover up for [redacted] in order to keep another girl friend of [redacted] from learning of his association with DUNHAM. COAN said that DUNHAM stayed with [redacted] at his ranch during the summer of 1943. COAN said that [redacted] who [redacted] at that time told him, COAN, of the goings-on between [redacted] DUNHAM. COAN said that with profane words, [redacted] told COAN of sexual intercourse between her father and DUNHAM which went on there in the house.

COAN said [redacted] servants told him of their overhearing a telephone conservation between [redacted] and DUNHAM, who was in New York City, New York, in which [redacted] was angry at DUNHAM and requested her to return his mother's engagement ring which he had given her.

COAN said that he understands that DUNHAM was due back in Los Angeles, California, in April 1944, where she is to play a series of engagements with her colored troupe. COAN said that [redacted] was trying to find a house for DUNHAM to live in. COAN said he understood that [redacted] met DUNHAM in New York City after one of her engagements and the two of them went from there to the [redacted] family cabin on Lake Waugewan near Meredith, New Hampshire. He said this is the area in which [redacted] grew up. He said he understood that [redacted] and DUNHAM spent several days together at this cabin. COAN said he had personally made reservations for two for [redacted] at this particular time from New York City to Boston, Massachusetts, and from Boston to Meredith, New Hampshire. He said that after [redacted] excursion to Lake Waugewan that [redacted] spent about a month in New York City during which time DUNHAM played several engagements in that city. COAN said that [redacted] had absolutely no regard whatsoever for his child, [redacted] COAN said that [redacted] was continually chasing women and spent most of his time satisfying his sexual craving.

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LA 161-1132

On January 31, 1967, [redacted] "Daily Variety" newspaper, an entertainment trade publication, Hollywood, California, advised that CECIL COAN, above described, died on January 17, 1967.

FD-302 (Rev. 4-15-64)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date January 31, 1967

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[redacted] was interviewed on January 31, 1967. [redacted] advised she did not desire to furnish this information in the form of a signed statement; however, she would be willing to appear before a hearing committee in the event her testimony was needed.

[redacted] advised that she is the former [redacted] said she does not recall a great deal concerning the association between [redacted] KATHERINE DUNHAM [redacted] She said she does remember [redacted] KATHERINE DUNHAM were quite closely associated during the early 1940's and described their association as "girl friend and boy friend". [redacted] said this situation caused her a great deal of embarrassment, possibly due to the fact that American society was not quite as intergrated racially at that particular time as it is now. She said she recalls that DUNHAM spent a great deal of time at [redacted] home, but she could not definitely say whether or not DUNHAM stayed overnight as she was personally in another section of the home. [redacted] said she suspected [redacted] DUNHAM of having a very intimate relationship, although she cannot recall having seen any actual display of such.

[redacted] said that to the best of her recollection, [redacted] DUNHAM carried on their relationship for a little over a year. She said, however, after this time [redacted] DUNHAM maintained contact both personally and through written correspondence. She said she has not heard [redacted] mention DUNHAM for the past several years. [redacted] said, although DUNHAM [redacted] caused her a great deal of embarrassment, she recalls DUNHAM as being a very likeable person.

On 1/31/67 at Santa Monica, California File# Los Angeles 161-1132

by SA [redacted] and SA [redacted] :kfh Date dictated 1/31/67

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[redacted] said she does not feel she recalls DUNHAM well enough to make any type of recommendation concerning DUNHAM'S character, associates, reputation, or loyalty, or to make any type of recommendation for a position of trust.

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FD-263 (Rev. 9-17-65)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DATE	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD
NEW YORK	BUREAU	2/1/67	1/24 - 2/1/67

TITLE OF CASE

KATHERINE DUNHAM, aka
Mrs. John Thomas Pratt
Kay Dunn

REPORT MADE BY [redacted]

TYPED BY pek

CHARACTER OF CASE

SPI b6 b7C

REFERENCES:

Bureau airtel to New York, dated 1/23/67;
New York teletype to Bureau, dated 1/27/67;
Bureau airtel to New York, dated 1/27/67;
New York teletype to Bureau, dated 1/27/67;
San Francisco teletype to Bureau, dated 1/30/67.

- RUC -

ADMINISTRATIVE:

This report is classified "~~Confidential~~" in view of the fact that information contained therein was extracted from reports in this matter so classified.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 3/7/00 BY [illegible]

Case has been: Pending over one year ☐ Yes ☐ No; Pending prosecution over six months ☐ Yes ☐ No

APPROVED [illegible] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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Notations

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INFORMANTS:

Identity of Source	File Number Where Located
[redacted]	100-3422-2628
	100-80675-162
	100-115741

Other confidential informants referred to in the body of this report are identified as follows:

[redacted]

FD-204 (Rev. 3-3-59)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: [redacted]
Date: 2/1/67

Office: New York, New York

Field Office File #: 161-2271

Bureau File #:

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Title: KATHERINE DUNHAM

Character: SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis: Associates interviewed and recommend. Information regarding KATHERINE DUNHAM and Dunham School set forth. Neighborhoods set forth. No credit, arrest or BSS record located for appointee or family. CIs negative.

- RUC -

DECLASSIFIED BY 24bja/tcg
ON: 2/7/00

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

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DETAILS:

Employment

Dunham School
440 West 42nd Street
New York, New York

On January 25, 1967, [redacted] the Dunham School, New York City. She explained that the Dunham Dance Company was composed of students who either attended or are presently attending the Dunham School, who demonstrated sufficient skill and proficiency that they were invited by Miss KATHERINE DUNHAM to represent their school on world tours. She stated that the Dunham School was initially opened in New York City, during 1944 when it was a school of dancing, located at 280 West 43rd Street, New York, New York. She advised the school expanded in 1952 into the Katherine Dunham School of Cultural Arts, which was an expansion of the curriculum to add social sciences and humanities. The school functioned thus until 1957 with no subsidies and a minimum of donations. She stated the program proved too extended for private enterprise and personal earnings of Miss DUNHAM could no longer underwrite the cost of the school on such a scale. From 1957 to 1962, she advised, the training in "Dunham Technique" of dancing was confined to the performing company with limited apprentices and master classes wherever stationed. She advised that these classes were held in Mexico, Australia, New Zealand, the Near and Far East, and Europe as well as in the United States.

[redacted] stated that during November, 1962, the Dunham School became organized in New York City and has developed from that point to the present school which is so well regarded for its teaching of the "Dunham Technique". [redacted] stated that the appointee was born in Chicago, Illinois on June 22, 1909, and to the best of her knowledge, the appointee's parents

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ALBERT and ANNETTE DUNHAM were both deceased. She had no knowledge of the appointee's parents ever residing in the New York City area. She stated the appointee was married [redacted] whom she advised was a set designer who accompanied the appointee on all of her world tours. She believed the appointee's [redacted] She had no information concerning his parents, but believed that they were both deceased and had originally come from Canada.

She stated that the appointee had one brother, ALBERT DUNHAM, who was deceased and that [redacted] She advised that the appointee and the appointee's husband adopted a daughter, [redacted]

[redacted] stated that the Dunham School has a Board of Directors composed of the following individuals:

[redacted]

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[redacted]

She stated that the appointee originally entered the theatrical profession during 1933 as a guest star with the Chicago Opera. She stated the appointee has since been active in more than 50 different stage plays, theatrical performances and movies. She stated the appointee is an outstanding choreographer and has been responsible for the choreography in more than two dozen various theater plays, within the United States as well as tours throughout South America, Mexico, Australia, the Near and Far East, and Europe. She stated that the appointee was a member of several theatrical groups which were essential for persons engaged in her professional endeavor. She listed these organizations as the American Society for Composers, Authors and Publishers, American Guild of Musical Artists, American Guild of Variety Artists, American Federation of Radio Artists, American Actors Equity Guild, and the American Artists Guild. She stated that the appointee was on the Board of the American Guild of Musical Artists from 1943 - 1950.

[redacted] stated that the appointee did not maintain a residence in the New York area per se. She stated, however, that whenever the appointee had occasion to be in the New York City area, she would either utilize the facilities available at the Dunham School, 440 West 42nd Street, New York City, or on occasions would utilize an apartment located at 167 West 85th Street, New York, New York. She was of the opinion that the appointee had a home in Port Au Prince, Haiti. She stated that the appointee's home in Haiti was not utilized as a residence location in recent years as a result of existing economic and political conditions in Haiti.

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[redacted] suggested that [redacted] of the William Morris Theatrical Agency, New York City, [redacted] presently affiliated with the Sol Hurok Artists, Incorporated, Los Angeles, California, would be individuals whom she regarded as being closely associated with the appointee. She suggested that [redacted] New City, New York, and [redacted] Columbia University, would also be familiar with the business activities of the appointee.

[redacted] concluded that she had no knowledge of any interest or sympathies on the part of the appointee which would render her to question the appointee's loyalty or integrity to the government of the United States. She considered the appointee to be entirely trustworthy and dependable, and had no reason to question her character, reputation or associates. She would recommend her most highly for a position of trust and responsibility with the Federal government.

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Neighborhoods

167 West 85th Street
New York, New York

On February 1, 1967, the following tenants were contacted by SA [redacted] They respectively advised that the appointee was not known to them by name and could not suggest anyone who may be in a position to have known the appointee:

[redacted]

Information appears in the interview with [redacted] under the caption of Associates, in this report, confirming the appointee's temporary residence at the captioned address.

[redacted]

Information appears in the interview with associates in this report that captioned address is the business address for the Dunham School, of which the appointee was the founder and utilized captioned address for temporary residence when in the New York City area.

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Associates

On January 27, 1967, [redacted] advised she has been associated with the appointee since 1945.

She stated she was also acquainted with [redacted] the appointee's husband, and their daughter, [redacted]

[redacted] advised that she served on the Board of Directors for the Dunham School, 440 West 42nd Street, New York City, and has been fully aware of the appointee's participation in numerous stage and theatrical productions, both in the United States and in foreign locations throughout the period of their association.

She advised the appointee was originally from Chicago, Illinois, and stated that her parents, ALBERT and ANNETTE DUNHAM, were both from the Chicago, Illinois, area. She stated that she had no knowledge of the appointee's parents being in the New York City area, and was of the understanding that both parents were deceased. She believed that the parents of the appointee's husband were also deceased and had formerly resided in the Chicago, Illinois, area. She believed that his parents were originally from Canada, but was unable to provide their respective names.

She advised that the appointee owned a home in Port-Au-Prince, Haiti, but had been unable to reside there for several years, due to political development in Haiti.

She advised the appointee usually stayed with close friends when in the New York City area on tour, or else utilized a hotel for temporary residence.

[redacted] advised the closest friends of the appointee appear to be [redacted]

She also furnished the following-named individuals as being associated with the appointee in her professional endeavors:

[redacted]
In care of Sol Hurok Artists, Incorporated

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[redacted]

She advised the appointee was a well-educated individual and was a good organizer and effective writer, in addition to her outstanding theatrical talent as dancer and choreographer.

[redacted]

She regarded the appointee as being a person of solid principles and excellent character, reputation and associates. She had no reason to question the appointee's loyalty and would highly recommend her for a position of trust and responsibility with the Federal Government.

1950
FRANCE

On January 31, 1967, [redacted] advised she has been acquainted with the appointee for more than ten years. She also stated that she was acquainted with the appointee's husband [redacted] and their adopted daughter, [redacted]

PARIS FRANCE

She stated that she served on the Board of Directors for the Dunham School of New York City, which the appointee founded in the mid 1940's. She remarked that the Dunham School presently offered instruction in the "Dunham Technique" of interpretive dancing, as well as ballet and modern dance.

[redacted] stated the appointee had purchased real estate in Haiti some years ago, which included a large hotel structure on the island. She advised the appointee and her family utilized these as their home in Port-Au-Prince, Haiti, when they had occasion to return to Haiti from world tours with the Dunham Company dancers. She stated, however,

due to political developments in recent years, the appointee has not been able to return to her home site in Haiti, and to her knowledge, has not been in Haiti during the past several years.

[redacted] stated the appointee was desirous of having someone checking on her property in Haiti, but had not been able to do this.

She regarded the appointee as a totally dedicated individual to the cultural arts. She stated that the appointee had an excellent educational background in Sociology and Archeology, in addition to her exceptional talents in the field of choreography. She stated that these talents and educational background have been the basis for the appointee being active in numerous world tours in connection with writing and choreography on the part of the appointee.

She stated she had no knowledge of any foreign interests of holdings on the part of the appointee which would be contrary to the interests of the United States of America. She recalled that the appointee was most generous in providing for medically needy inhabitants of Haiti some years ago. In fact, she advised her principal criticism of the appointee would be the fact that the appointee would forget to take care of herself at the expense of looking after others.

[redacted] advised that in her business and social associations with the appointee, she had nothing but the highest regard for the appointee and her family. She had absolutely no reason to question her character, reputation, associates or loyalty.

She stated she always knew the appointee to either stay at the Dunham School on West 42nd Street, or with close friends when visiting the New York City area. She knew of no permanent residence address for the appointee in the United States or within the New York City area.

She stated the appointee was scheduled to return to the United States from Senegal during March, 1967, and would be visiting with friends when in New York during this period.

She suggested the closest associates and friends known to her of the appointee would include [redacted], in addition to the members of the Board of Directors of the Dunham School.

She concluded that she knew of no organizational interest on the part of the appointee which would preclude her giving the highest recommendation for the appointee to a trustworthy and responsible position with the Federal Government.

On January 27, 1967, [redacted] Theater Guild, 27 West 53rd Street, New York, New York, advised SA [redacted] that she has known the appointee since 1929, when they both were students at the University of Chicago. She said that she also knew the appointee's brother, ALBERT, who is now deceased. She said that she had a close professional and social reaationship with the appointee and first directed the appointee in the "Cube" Theater in Chicago. She also advised that the appointee did choreography work for [redacted] the Chicago Civil Ballet, and the Chicago Opera Company, and was also connected with the Works Projects Administration (WPA) Theater. She advised that the appointee met her husband, [redacted] who was a designer for the WPA Theater through this group. She said that she also remembered that the appointee was a member of the cast and did the choreography work for the International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU) production "Pins and Needles". She advised, however, that she never knew of the appointee being a member of the ILGWU or being sympathetic with any group or interests inimical to the best interests of the United States Government.

She advised that during this time the appointee was in the process of forming her own dance company. [redacted] advised that in an unofficial way she helped to manage this company for the appointee. She advised that the appointee, either in connection with the Haitian Government, or by herself, set up an orphanage in Haiti. She said that she was not clear on this, but that she believed the appointee and the Haitian Government shared a mutual interest in this social need.

She further advised that the appointee was highly respected in the field of the Arts and that she would consider the appointee a pathfinder in helping Negroes establish themselves in the theater. She explained that she has not had any connection with the appointee since the late 1940's. She said that she had no reason to question the appointee's character, reputation, associates or loyalty to the United States, and that she would recommend her for a position with the United States Government.

She stated that the appointee was a writer of numerous articles and short stories relating to the interpretation of dance in the West Indies and the American Negro. She advised that the appointee used the pseudonym KAY DUNN, as well as the name KATHERINE DUNHAM, when contributing to literary publications.

On January 31, 1967, [redacted] advised that he has been acquainted with the appointee for more than four years. He stated that he served as an accountant for the Dunham School, and the Cultural Arts Foundation, which has been chartered by New York State for the Dunham School.

He stated he was primarily responsible for submitting the appointee's qualifications to the National Arts Council, for study, in view of the appointee's great interest and talents in the cultural arts.

He remarked that the appointee's dance company has been received with acclaim throughout the world. He stated he endeavored to render whatever aid he could to make her tours a profitable venture in the United States, as well.

He stated he was acquainted with both the appointee's husband and daughter. He stated he was not acquainted with the parents of either the appointee or the appointee's husband. He believed that both of their respective parents were deceased and resided, when they were alive, in the Chicago, Illinois, area.

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He regarded the appointee and her family as being individuals of excellent character, reputation and associates. He had no reason to question their loyalty to the United States Government.

[redacted] advised that the appointee and her family had not been in the United States for approximately one and one-half to two years, but were expected to return to the New York City area during March, 1967.

He advised that he would have no hesitation in recommending the appointee for a position of trust and responsibility with the United States Government.

He suggested that [redacted] Columbia University, New York City, was one of the appointee's closest friends. He also furnished the names of [redacted] and other members of the Board of Directors, of the Dunham School, as being individuals well acquainted with the appointee.

On January 26, 1967, [redacted] Sol Hurok Artists, Incorporated, 730 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York, advised the appointee was represented by their agency during the period in the 1940's, as well as in the 1950's. He advised their company would guarantee the appointee's dance troop on several world tours and stage productions in the United States. He advised he was personally acquainted with the appointee during the period of this business association, and considered her to be a talented and highly gifted artist.

He advised the appointee was not exclusively dependent upon their agency for theatrical contracts and was very successful as an independent in this regard.

He stated that his wife, [redacted] also a choreographer, was acquainted with the appointee. He further suggested that Mr. DAVID HOLTZMAN, Esq., was an attorney utilized by the appointee and [redacted] was a close associate.

He concluded that his evaluation of the appointee was entirely favorable and he would have no hesitation in recommending her as to her good character, reputation, loyalty and associates. He further stated he would favorably recommend her for a position of trust and responsibility with the Federal Government.

On January 26, 1967, [redacted] Sol Hurok Artists, Incorporated, advised that he was acquainted with the appointee during the period of her business associations with their agency. He stated that based upon his contacts with the appointee he would have no reason to question her character, reputation, associates, or loyalty, and would favorably recommend her for a responsible position of trust with the Federal Government.

[redacted] further stated that the [redacted] was presently out of the United States, in connection with business interests, and would, therefore, be unavailable for interview at this time.

On January 26, 1967, [redacted] Sol Hurok Artists, Incorporated, advised that she was a choreographer and had numerous opportunities to become acquainted with the appointee in her professional activities.

She stated that she regarded the appointee as an outstanding talent in the choreography field. She stated the appointee was renowned for her dancing technique, which has been termed the "Dunham Technique", among choreographers.

She advised the appointee has participated in numerous theatrical performances and stage productions throughout the United States and on world tours for more than 30 years.

She stated that she had opportunity in the past years to become casually acquainted with the appointee's husband, and adopted daughter. She had no information concerning the appointee's parents or the parents of the appointee's husband.

She concluded that she would favorably recommend the appointee for a position of trust and responsibility with the Federal Government and had no reason to question her character, reputation or associates.

She advised that the appointee was responsible for the choreography and staging of the Metropolitan Opera production of Aida, which has been appearing for the past three years in New York City.

On February 2, 1954, [redacted] advised that [redacted] was at one time associated with Communist Party front organizations such as the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, and the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee.

[redacted] further advised that [redacted] has been dis-associated with all Communist Party fronts for many years.

The National Council of American-Soviet Friendship and the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee have been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

On February 1, 1967, [redacted] advised she has been a long-time acquaintance of the appointee. She stated that she, herself, formerly was a singer in musical productions and became closely acquainted with the appointee, who was an outstanding choreographer.

She stated the appointee was one of the greatest Americans in her judgment. She attributed this to the fact that the appointee was so thoroughly American in her every-day endeavors and fully appreciated the American system of government.

She advised the appointee was married [redacted] a set designer, and they had one daughter,

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[redacted] which she understood was adopted by the appointee and her husband in Europe. She remarked that the appointee and her family travelled extensively throughout Europe, South America, and the Near and Far East, on theatrical tours over the past 20 years. She stated the appointee more recently had the choreography for the Metropolitan Opera production of Aida, and also had the choreography and staging for "Faust", at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois.

She considered the appointee to be of unquestioned character, reputation, associates and loyalty and would highly recommend the appointee for a position of trust and responsibility with the Federal Government.

She advised that the appointee had utilized the Sol Hurok Artists, Incorporated and William Morris Theatrical Agency for promotion and backing on numerous plays and tours. She also suggested that [redacted] as being persons closely associated with the appointee.

[redacted] stated that although the appointee did not maintain an official residence in the New York City area, other than the appointee's business interest with the Dunham School, 440 West 42nd Street, the appointee would, on occasion, utilize her, [redacted] apartment facilities while on tour or visiting in the New York City area. She further advised that the appointee has not been in the New York City area for approximately one and one-half to two years, and was expected to return in March, 1967, and would undoubtedly be sharing some of her time in the New York City area at her, [redacted] residence.

On January 27, 1967, [redacted] advised SA [redacted] that DAVID HOLTZMAN was deceased.

[redacted] advised that DAVID HOLTZMAN would represent the appointee in legal matters relating to the

Dunham School, and the appointee's dance troop, which made worldwide tours. She advised she had only a passing acquaintance with the appointee, and based on her limited contact, she knew of nothing that would reflect unfavorably on the appointee's character, reputation, associates or loyalty. She concluded that she had no reason to not recommend the appointee for a position of responsibility and trust with the Federal Government.

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On January 25, 1967, [redacted] Filmways, Incorporated, 51 West 51st Street, New York, New York, advised that he formerly served as a legal advisor for the appointee for a period of approximately 7 - 10 years. He related that he has not practiced law in more than three years and that it has been approximately 3 - 4 years since he last had any contact with the appointee.

[redacted] recalled that the appointee was married [redacted] and believed that they have one adopted child. He stated that to his knowledge, the appointee did not maintain any permanent residence address in the United States of America. He believed that the appointee while appearing in theatrical capacities in the New York City area would stay at an apartment in the New York City area. He did not have any specific information concerning any New York residence addresses for the appointee or the appointee's family.

[redacted] stated that the appointee was a graduate of the University of Chicago and believed that she pursued graduate work at either the University of Chicago or Northwestern University in Illinois. He considered the appointee to be a very intelligent and most talented individual. He stated that the appointee pursued graduate work which required a period of research and study in the West Indies on the part of the appointee. He stated that the appointee subsequently wrote numerous articles and several books as a result of her intense interest and study into the history of dance. [redacted] advised that the appointee was known throughout the theater world for her contributions to both ballet and dance and was considered an outstanding choreographer. He stated that the appointee's dancing styles are known among the choreographers as the "Dunham Technique".

He recalled that the appointee was the founder of the Katherine Dunham School of Cultural Arts, Incorporated, New York City, which he advised was founded prior to his period of association with the appointee. He stated that in his legal capacity, he had occasion to enter into business arrangements in behalf of the appointee and the Katherine Dunham School of Cultural Arts, Incorporated. He stated that the school is presently known as the Dunham School, which is presently located at 440 West 42nd Street, New York, New York.

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[redacted] stated that during the period in which he rendered legal services to the appointee, the appointee was utilizing the Sol Hurok Artists, Incorporated, for theatrical bookings. He stated that he recalled they promoted and sponsored several of her tours and more specifically, he remembered that they sponsored a tour of the Dunham Dance Company through South America and Mexico during 1954 - 1955. He also advised the appointee utilized other agencies but was unable to recall any of them by name at this point.

[redacted] stated that during the period of his association with the appointee, he became aware of the fact that she had extensive theatrical background which included appearances in plays, but more often required her professional skills as a dancer and choreographer. He approximated that the appointee appeared in more than 40 diffenent plays, including stage, theater and world tours, during a period from 1933 - 1963.

[redacted] advised that his association with the appointee was entirely favorable and that he at no time had any reason to question the appointee's character, reputation, associates or loyalty. He stated that he had no knowledge of the appointee being sympathetic to any foreign interest and regarded her as being dedicated to the American Government and the American way of life.

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[redacted] suggested that [redacted] who was a former theatrical producer, would be the person whom he would consider best acquainted with the appointee. He stated that [redacted] was presently associated with the Sol Hurok Artists, Incorporated, Los Angeles, California.

[redacted] concluded that he would unhesitatingly recommend the appointee for a position of trust and responsibility with the Federal government.

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On January 30, 1967, [redacted] advised SA [redacted] that he had been acquainted with the appointee for approximately five years. He advised that he was a member of the Board of Directors of a nonprofit foundation which the appointee had organized to aid underprivileged children. He described his relationship with the appointee as both a social and business type relationship and stated that he considered the appointee to be an excellent writer and that on numerous occasions he has collaborated with the appointee in publishing various articles.

He advised that he considered the appointee to be an individual of good character, morals and associates and he stated that at all times the appointee had conducted herself in a highly proper and ethical manner. He advised that he would without reservation recommend the appointee for a position of trust and responsibility with the United States Government.

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[redacted] Metropolitan Opera, Lincoln Center Plaza, New York, New York, advised SA [redacted] on January 27, 1967, that he recalls when KATHERINE DUNHAM was under contract as Choreographer, for the production of "Aida," which she completed approximately three seasons ago. [redacted] further advised he did not know the appointee personally, but during his association with her at the Metropolitan Opera, he has known her to be a person of excellent moral character and reputation. She is well known in her field of Choreographer and is well regarded among the entertainment world. He said during his association with DUNHAM, he has never had any reason to question her loyalty to the United States nor has he heard anyone speak adversely about her. He added he had no reservations as far as recommending her for a trustworthy position with the Federal Government.

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On January 30, 1967, [redacted] advised SA [redacted] he is a writer and he first became acquainted with the appointee in approximately 1944. He had written a musical, "Carib Song" and in 1945, the appointee appeared in this musical and also was involved in the choreography. She has always been a person of excellent character and reputation and he considers her a loyal American. He recommended her for a position of trust and confidence in the United States Government.

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On January 27, 1967, [redacted] advised SA [redacted] that he first came to know the appointee in 1946 when she organized the production of a musical show "Carib Song" in a Broadway theater. He stated that he was a backer of this show and had numerous social and professional contacts with the appointee during that time, and he regards the appointee as a very capable and intelligent woman. [redacted] advised that the appointee was an instructor in the dance and was very active working with young artistically inclined people in the New York City area. He further stated that during the past ten years, he has only seen the appointee about three or four times, due to the fact that she travels a great dael and apparently doesn't spend much time in the New York area. He stated that he has never met the appointee's husband, but based on the close association he had with the appointee several years ago, he has the utmost respect for her as a person and as an artist and he regards her character and loyalty as beyond reproach. [redacted] stated that he would definitely recommend the appointee for a position of trust and resonsibility with the government

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On January 27, 1967, [redacted] advised SA [redacted] that he has known the appointee for about four years on a professional basis. He considered the appointee to be one of the most famous dance instructors in the world. He said that the appointee was a competent, conscientious and personable individual who had excellent character, associates, reputation and loyalty. He further advised he would recommend the appointee for a position with the United States Government.

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Credit

On January 30, 1967, [redacted] Credit Bureau of Greater New York, advised IC [redacted] that no record could be located identifiable with the appointee or appointee's family.

Arrest

On January 30, 1967, SA [redacted] caused the records of the New York City Police Department (NYCPD) to be checked by [redacted] Bureau of Criminal Identification; [redacted] Information Unit; [redacted] Old Record Room (all of the above of the NYCPD); and [redacted] Fingerprint Bureau, Criminal Court of the City of New York. No record could be found identifiable with the appointee, the appointee's husband, daughter, or parents.

Miscellaneous

On January 30, 1967, [redacted] American Guild of Musical Artists, 1841 Broadway, New York City, advised SA [redacted] that most of the Guild's records were destroyed by fire approximately two weeks ago and she could locate no official record of KATHERINE DUNHAM having served on the Board of Governors of this organization. She did find KATHERINE DUNHAM's name listed on the organizational stationery for the years 1948-1949, as a member of the Board of Governors and a photograph of her filed under the caption "Former Members of the Board of Governors".

[redacted] stated she only recognized KATHERINE DUNHAM as a very talented performer and could suggest no one who might be personally acquainted with her.

During 1944, information was received from Military Intelligence Headquarters, Third Service Command, New York City, that the American Youth For Democracy, and the Philadelphia School of Social Science had a reception for KATHERINE DUNHAN, dancer, on December 16, 1944.

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The American Youth For Democracy and the Philadelphia School of Social Science and Art have been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

The "Daily Worker", issue of October 7, 1943, contained an article which stated in part that the "Broadway and Hollywood Star Katherine Dunham, has agreed to sponsor and appear at the Golden Gate Ballroom 'Davis Victory' show on Sunday, October 24, 1943". The article further contained that she joined a long list of artists who paid tribute to the communist leader.

The "Daily Worker" was an East Coast communist newspaper which suspended publication on January 13, 1958.

The files of the House Committee on Un-American Activities reflected that an undated leaflet published by the Citizens Non-Partisan Committee to elect BENJAMIN J. DAVIS to the City Council, 2286 Seventh Avenue, New York, New York, is noted to list the name of KATHERINE DUNHAM as one of the artists of stage, screen, radio and fine arts, who endorsed the candidacy of DAVIS.

Concerning the Citizens Non-Partisan Committee to elect BENJAMIN J. DAVIS to the City Council, page 629, Hearings before a Special Committee on Un-American Activities, Appendix Part Nine reflects in part that "in 1942, BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, Jr., ran for Congress on the Communist Party ticket. In that campaign the "Daily Worker" described DAVIS as 'the militant Negro Communist'. In 1942, there was a citizens' Non-Partisan Committee to elect BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, Jr., at large. FERDINAND C. SMITH, the Alien Secretary of the National Maritime Union, and MAX YERGAN, President of the National Negro Congress, were members of this later committee".

The National Negro Congress has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

During 1948, [redacted] who is not available for recontact, advised that a news release issued by the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, announced that the Katherine Dunham

b2
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Dancers, among others, would appear at borough rallies during the Free Spain week, December 2, 1948, to December 9, 1948, at New York.

[redacted] furnished information during 1946, that KATHERINE DUNHAM's name appeared as one of the members of a dinner committee at a dinner diven at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel on March 18, 1946, under the auspices of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee.

During 1946, [redacted] who is not available for recontact, advised that literature distributed by the National Committee to Oust Bilbo, sponsored by the Civil Rights Congress, contains the name of KATHERINE DUNHAM, not further described, as one of the members of the committee.

The Civil Rights Congress has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

The Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, 80th Congress, First Session, issued a booklet captioned "Report on Civil Rights Congress", dated February 15, 1947, on pages 25 and 26 of this booklet an article is quoted from the "Daily Worker" issue of October 7, 1946, which sets forth that on the eve of the reopening of the court suit to bar the Communist Party (CP) from the New York State ballot, certain leaders condemned the drive against minority party electoral rights as an assault on the American principal of free elections. The article reflects that a declaration was issued by the Civil Rights Congress of New York defending the right of the CP to appear on a ballot. One of the signers of the declaration, according to the article, was KATHERINE DUNHAM, dancer.

The "Daily Worker", issue of April 7, 1947, contains an article stating that 25 noted American artists, writers and public leaders are urging support of the current drive of the "New Masses" for funds in a signed appeal which appears in this weeks issue. The signers stated that while they hold different political opinions they are nevertheless "United in the deep belief that 'New Masses' had a right to live.

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Signed by KATHERINE DUNHAM, among others, the appeal declares we believe in a free press and we know that an organ like "New Masses" could be suppressed by its creditors as effectively as it could by its most rabid enemies. We are of the conviction that if "New Masses" goes under, there will be cheering and stamping in the back rooms of every reactionary political clique in the country.

On January 31, 1967, [redacted] Bureau of Special Services, NYCPD, advised SA [redacted] that his records contained no additional information concerning the appointee, the Dunham School, or known members of the appointee's family.

During January, 1967, several confidential informants who are familiar with general communist activities in the New York City area, advised they were not acquainted with the appointee, the Dunham School, or the appointee's family members.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 161-2271

1. APPENDIX

NEW MASSES (See also Masses and Mainstream, and Mainstream)

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications", revised and published as of December 1, 1961, prepared and released by theCommittee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., contains the following concerning New Masses:

1. "New Masses, a weekly publication, *** was an officially controlled organ of the (Communist) Party which dealt principally with problems in the arts and sciences from the Party point of view."

   (Subversive Activities Control Board, Docket No. 108-53, Report and Order with respect to the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, December 21, 1955, p. 8.)

2. A "Communist periodical."

   (Attorney General Francis Biddle, Congressional Record, September 24, 1942, p. 7688.)

3. "Nationally circulated weekly journal of the Communist Party *** whose ownership was vested in the American Fund for Public Service" (Garland Fund).

   (Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House Report 1311 on the CIO Political Action Committee, March 29, 1944, pp. 48 and 75; also cited in Annual Reports, House Report 2, January 3, 1939, p. 80; and House Report 2277, June 25, 1942, pp. 4 and 21.)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FD-323 (Rev. 11-29-61)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New York, New York
February 1, 1967

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. NY 161-2271

Title Katherine Dunham

b2
b6
b7C
b7D

Character Special Inquiry

Reference is made to New York report of Special Agent [redacted] dated and captioned as above, at New York, New York.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

[redacted] was a business associate of the appointee and was in a position to furnish reliable information.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FD-263 (Rev. 9-17-65)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DATE	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD
PHILADELPHIA	BUREAU	2/1/67	2/1/67

TITLE OF CASE

KATHERINE DUNHAM
aka Katherine Pratt
Mrs. John Thomas Pratt

REPORT MADE BY [redacted] TYPED BY JJM

CHARACTER OF CASE

SPI

REFERENCE

BuAirtel Philadelphia 1/27/67. b2 b6 b7C

-RUC-

IDENTITY OF INFORMANT

[redacted] [redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 3/4/05 BY SP4 byltcg

- A* -
COVER PAGE

Case has been: Pending over one year ☐ Yes ☐ No; Pending prosecution over six months ☐ Yes ☐ No

APPROVED SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

COPIES MADE:

(1) - Bureau (enc)

1 - Philadelphia (161-1066)

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

161-4870-16

NOT RECORDED
3 FEB 2 1967

Dissemination Record of Attached Report				
Agency				
Request Recd.	301			
Date Fwd.	61 MAR 27 1967			
How Fwd.				
By				

Notations

Spec. Ind.

FD-204 (Rev. 3-3-59)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

b6
b7C

Copy to:

Report of: [redacted]
Date: FEBRUARY 1, 1967

Office: PHILADELPHIA

Field Office File #: 161-1066

Bureau File #:

Title: KATHERINE DUNHAM

Character: SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis: Informant furnished floater announcing appearance of KATHERINE DUNHAM at Philadelphia School of Social Science and Art, organization designated by Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450. Catalog of this school for Spring Session, 1945, announced KATHERINE DUNHAM Scholarship in Dancing.

- RUC -

Details:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/7/00 BY SP-4 [illegible]

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

PH 161-1066

AT PHILADELPHIA, PA. MISCELLANEOUS

b2

[redacted] who is unavailable for recontact and who was not personally acquainted with KATHERINE DUNHAM, furnished on February 22, 1944, a floater captioned "The Philadelphia School of Social Science and Art, 1704 Walnut Street, Philadelphia 3" which was distributed to students in the Philadelphia area during early 1944, announcing that the Philadelphia School of Social Science and Art was extremely proud to announce that Miss KATHERINE DUNHAM, star of the sensational "Topical Revue," would appear at the school on Tuesday night, February 1 from 7 to 8 PM to give a lecture on and description ofthe development and growth of the negro dance to the present day and its contribution to the American scene.

> The Philadelphia School of Social Science and Art has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

The catalog for the Spring Session, 1945, of the Philadelphia School of Social Science and Art, announced among other scholarships the KATHERINE DUNHAM Scholarship in Dancing.

FD-323 (Rev. 11-29-61)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

FEBRUARY 1, 1967

Title KATHERINE DUNHAM

Character SPECIAL INQUIRY

Reference Report of SA [redacted] b6 b7C
dated & captioned as above.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

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4-3 (Rev. 1-27-66)

NA 2-2-67 REK

DECODED COPY

☐ AIRGRAM ☒ CABLEGRAM ☐ RADIO ☐ TELETYPE

Tolson
DeLoach
Mohr
Wick
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

STATE 11

DEFERRED 2-1-67

TO DIRECTOR

FROM LEGAT MEXICO CITY NO. 51

MR. CLEVELAND ROOM 1246

KATHERINE DUNHAM; SPECIAL INQUIRY; BUDED FEBRUARY 2 NEXT.

REBUAIRTEL JANUARY 23 LAST.

NO DEROGATORY INFORMATION DEVELOPED IN INVESTIGATION AT MEXICO CITY. REPORT DATED JANUARY 31 LAST BEING FORWARDED BY NEXT COURIER POUCH.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY SP-4bja/tcg

RECEIVED: 5:19 PM MSE

161-4870-17

NOT RECORDED

25 MAR 13 1967

1 cc destroyed WN Blmcg

301

3RD CC: MR. BRENNAN

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

FD-36 (Rev. 5-22-64)

FBI

Date: 2/2/67

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

b6
b7C

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (161-1413) (RUC)

SUBJECT: KATHERINE DUNHAM, aka
SPI

[redacted]

Re Bureau airtel, 1/27/67, and Chicago report, 2/1/67.

Referenced airtel, page 2, paragraph 1, refers to Chicago file [redacted] Chicago indices contain only one reference to [redacted] which does not contain any pertinent information concerning appointee. It is noted that file [redacted] indicates that investigation on [redacted] was converted to FFI, however, Chicago file does not contain any report in this matter.

1 - Bureau
1 - Chicago

EJN:bab
(2)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY SP-4 bya/tcg

161-4870-18

NOT RECORDED
3 FEB 3 1967

301

Spec. Ind.

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

FD-263 (Rev. 9-17-65)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DATE	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD
WASHINGTON FIELD	BUREAU	2/2/67	1/24 - 2/1/67

TITLE OF CASE

KATHERINE DUNHAM, aka
Kay Dunn
Katherine Pratt
Mrs. John Thomas Pratt

REPORT MADE BY: SA [redacted] | TYPED BY: egj

CHARACTER OF CASE: SPI

REFERENCES: Buairtel 1/23/67; Buairtel 1/27/67; NYteltype to CG 1/27/67; BAteletype to WFO 2/1/67.

- P -

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LEADS

WASHINGTON FIELD

AT WASHINGTON, D. C. 1. Will obtain comments of U. S. Senator JACOB K. JAVITS, who has been unavailable for an interview.

2. Will report results of agency checks at NIS for file #1891401, State Department Passport Office, IRS, U. S. Secret Service, [redacted] HCUA, and CSC.

NR

Case has been: Pending over one year ☐ Yes ☐ No; Pending prosecution over six months ☐ Yes ☐ No

APPROVED | SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

COPIES MADE:

2 - Bureau
1 - WFO (161-4100)

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

161-4870-17

NOT RECORDED
25 MAR 13 1967

Dissemination Record of Attached Report				
Agency				
Request Recd.	301			
Date Fwd.				
How Fwd.				
By				

61 MAR 27 1967

Notations: ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 8-4-88 BY [redacted]

- A* -

COVER PAGE

FD-204 (Rev. 3-3-59)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: SA [redacted]
Date: 2/2/67

Office: Washington, D. C.

Field Office File #: 161-4100

Bureau File #:

Title: KATHERINE DUNHAM

b3
b6
b7C
b7D

Character: SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis: The White House Office and the WPA personnel-investigative files contain no record of the appointee. [redacted] The Card Catalog, Library of Congress, disclosed appointee author of two books "Journey to Accomplishment" and "A Touch of Innocence."

- P -

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 9/9/80 BY [redacted]

EMPLOYMENTS

White House Office

SA [redacted] caused a check to be made of the records of captioned office on January 27, 1967. [redacted] advised that the files of that office contain no record for appointee, KATHERINE DUNHAM.

On January 27, 1967, [redacted] captioned office, advised SA [redacted] that the files of the office contined no record for the appointee.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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IC [redacted] caused the personnel-investigative files of the Works Progress Administration to be searched at the National Archives of the United States, and was advised on February 1, 1967, that no record of appointee or her husband, [redacted] could be located.

MISCELLANEOUS

SA [redacted] caused a search to be made [redacted]

A review of the Library of Congress Card Catalog on January 31, 1967, by IC [redacted] disclosed that KATHERINE DUNHAM was the author of the books "Journey to Accompong," published by H. Holt and Company, New York City, in 1946, and "A Touch of Innocence," published by Harcourt Brace and Company in 1955.

Concerning the book "Journey to Accompong," the "Book Review Digest for 1947" disclosed that this book by KATHERINE DUNHAM was a "day by day account of sojourn to a Maroon village in the mountains of Jamaica, where Miss DUNHAM, the dancer and anthropologist, went some years ago to study native dances. The Maroons, a remnant people descended from African villages who rebelled against the Spaniards in the 16th Century, are reputed to be taciturn and unfriendly with white visitors, and they accepted Miss DUNHAM as perhaps they would not have accepted a white person."

The reviews of this book contained no derogatory information or information of a security or subversive nature.

In the "Book Review Digest for 1960" it was pointed out Miss DUNHAM, "a dancer and choreographer, in her book 'A Touch of Innocence,' writes in the third person of her first

20 years, a period that spans the First World War, the boom, and the depression."

The reviews of this book contained no derogatory information, and no information of a subversive nature.

"The Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature" was reviewed from 1930 to date and it was noted that the following articles had been written about Miss DUNHAM's travels and dancing:

"Movies in the Making; Green Mansions," Dance Magazine, February, 1959.

"Bringing Back Dancing: Hunting Talent in Western Africa," Life, November 16, 1962.

"Carribbean Tourists Trips," Travel, February,1964.

No additional information concerning appointee was noted in the Card Catalog, Library of Congress.

FD-36 (Rev. 5-22-64)

FBI

Date: 2/3/67

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

b6
b7C

FROM: SAC, WFO (161-4100) (P)

KATHERINE DUNHAM, aka
SPI

ReWFOreport of SA [redacted] dated 2/2/67.

Defense Central Index of Investigation were caused to be searched by IC [redacted] who was advised 2/1/67, that information possibly identical with appointee located Naval Investigative Service File number 1891401.

IC [redacted] caused a search to be made of the files of the Naval Investigative Service Headquarters, and was advised on 2/2/67, that the files contained no additional pertinent information concerning the appointee.

IC [redacted] caused a search to be made of the files of the Bureau of Personnel Investigations, Civil Service Commission, and it was that no additional pertinent information concerning appointee could be located.

Attached as page #3 are comments of U.S. Senator JAVITS.

1 - Bureau
1 - WFO

JER:sas
(2)

AIRTEL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY SP-4bjaltcg

161-4870-

NOT RECORDED
25 MAR 13 1967

301

61 MAR 27 1967

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

WFO 161-4100

LEAD

b3

WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE

AT WASHINGTON, D.C. Will report results of agency checks at State Passport Office, IRS, U.S. Secret Service, HCUA, [redacted]

WFO 161-4100
JHD:bmr
1

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b7D

On February 2, 1967, [redacted] United States Senator JACOB K. JAVITS, New York, advised SA [redacted] that Senator JAVITS stated he did not know KATHERINE DUNHAM.

3

2/9/67

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE URGENT

TO : SAC, NEW YORK (161-2271)

FROM : SAC, WFO (161-4100)

KATHERINE DUNHAM, AKA, SPI, BUDED PAST.

RE NEW YORK TELETYPE DATED JANUARY TWENTY SEVEN LAST.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE UNABLE TO LOCATE INCOME TAX DATA OF APPOINTEE. REQUEST ADDRESSES FOR NINETEEN SIXTY TWO THROUGH SIXTY FIVE AND SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER.

NEW YORK SHOULD NOT MAKE ANY INQUIRY CONCERNING THE TAX RETURNS. IF INTERVIEW OF APPOINTEE NECESSARY TO OBTAIN PERTINENT TAX DATA, IRS WILL HANDLE WHEN HER LOCATION KNOWN.

BUREAU ADVISED. SPIN. P.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY SP-Hbj/Hcg

1 - Teletype Unit
1 - Bureau
1 - WFO

JER:clm
(3)

161-4870-21

NOT RECORDED
25 MAR 13 1967

RECEIVED

301

61 MAR 27 1967

FD-36 (Rev. 5-22-64)

~~SECRET~~

FBI

Date: 2/10/67

b1
b3
b6
b7C

Transmit the following in _____ (Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL _____ (Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, WFO (161-4100) (P)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

KATHERINE DUNHAM, aka
SPI

ReWFOtel to NY 2/9/67, and WFOairtel to Bureau 2/3/67.

[redacted]

SA [redacted] caused a search to be made [redacted]

The files of the House Committee on Un-American Activities were reviewed and it was determined on 2/9/67, that no additional pertinent information concerning appointee could be located.

2/7/00
CLASSIFIED BY SP4bja/tag
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 1 6
Classified OGA 7/17/01 SP3BTS 9/7/02

1 - Bureau
1 - WFO

JER:pgg
(2)

161-4870-12

NOT RECORDED
25 MAR 13 1967

AIRTEL

~~SECRET~~

61 MAR 27 1967

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

~~SECRET~~

IC [redacted] caused the files to be searched at the United States Secret Service, Department of the Treasury, and was advised on 2/10/67, that no record of appointee could be located. b6 b7C

LEADS

WFO

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Will reports results of agency checks at State Passport; State Security Office; and IRS when available.

~~SECRET~~

---16--

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Wick
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

FBI NEW YORK

642 PM URGENT 2/10/67 AWS

TO DIRECTOR AND WFO 161-4100

FROM NEW YORK 161-2271

KATHERINE DUNHAM AKA, SPI. BUDED PAST.

MR. CLEVELAND
ROOM 1248

REWFOTEL' FEBRUARY NINE LAST.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/7/00 BY [illegible]

FOR INFO OF WFO' APPOINTEE FOUNDED DUNHAM SCHOOL' NYC NINETEEN FORTIES. SCHOOL SINCE NINETEEN SIXTY TWO' LOCATED FOUR FOUR ZERO WEST FORTY SECOND STREET' NYC. APPOINTEE HAS NO KNOWN DOMICILE IN USA BUT HAS UTILIZED FACILITIES OF SCHOOL AND SHARED HOUSING WITH FRIENDS IN NEW YORK AREA WHEN VISITING OR ON THEATRICAL TOURS. APPOINTEE HAS PARTICIPATED IN SEVERAL THEATRICAL PRODUCTIONS ,CHOREOGRAPHY, AND WORLD TOURS DURING PERIOD NINETEEN SIXTY TWO-SIXTY FIVE' AND IS ARTIST IN RESIDENCE' SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY' CARBONDALE' ILLINOIS ,NINETEEN SIXTY FIVE,.

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b7C

REGISTRAR OF DUNHAM SCHOOL' CAMILE YAROBROUGH' NOT AVAILABLE FOR CONTACT PRIOR TO FEBRUARY THIRTEEN' SIXTY SEVEN. CONTACT WILL BE MADE THAT D,ATE TO LEARN SSN OF APPOINTEE. P.

END HLD FOR ONE MORE

161-4870-23

NOT RECORDED
25 MAR 13 1967

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1cc destroyed
[illegible]

61 MAR 27 1967

TWO COPIES TO WFO

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ENCODED MESSAGE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Wick
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

MR. CLEVELAND
ROOM 1246

FBI NEW YORK /7/

1139 AM URGENT 2-14-67 JLW

TO DIRECTOR AND WASHINGTON FIELD 161-4100

FROM NEW YORK 161-2271 1P

KATHERINE DUNHAM AKA, SPI. BUDED PAST.

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b7C
b7D

RE NEW YORK TEL, FEBRUARY TEN, LAST.

ON FEBRUARY FOURTEEN, INSTANT, [redacted] DUNHAM SCHOOL, NEW YORK, NEW YORK, FURNISHED INFORMATION THAT APPOINTEE UTILIZED SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER FIVE SIX SEVEN - FIVE SIX-FIVE EIGHT SEVEN EIGHT UNDER THE NAME KATHERINE DUNHAM AND SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER THREE THREE ZERO - ONE FOUR - TWO EIGHT THREE TWO UNDER THE MARRIED NAME OF PRATT.

SHE COULD FURNISH NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING RESIDENCES DURING THE PERIOD ONE NINE SIX TWO - ONE NINE SIX FIVE.

REPORT FOLLOWS.

EHOLD&&&

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY SP-4 bjl/tcg

161-4870-

NOT RECORDED
23 MAR 13 1967

TWO COPIES TO WFO

1 cc destroyed
BJ/mary

61 MAR 27 1967

FD-263 (Rev. 9-17-65)

[redacted]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DATE	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD
NEW YORK	BUREAU	2/14/67	2/10/67 - 2/14/67

TITLE OF CASE

KATHERINE DUNHAM aka
Mrs. John Thomas Pratt
Kay Dunn

REPORT MADE BY [redacted] TYPED BY gs

CHARACTER OF CASE

SPI b6 b7C

REFERENCES:

Report of SA [redacted] dated 2/1/67, at New York.
WFO teletype to New York dated 2/9/67.
New York teletypes to WFO dated 2/10/67 and 2/14/67.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY [redacted]

Case has been: Pending over one year ☐ Yes ☐ No; Pending prosecution over six months ☐ Yes ☐ No

APPROVED [redacted] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

COPIES MADE:

1-Bureau (RM)
1-New York (161-2271)

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161-4870-25

NOT RECORDED
12 FEB 15 1967

Dissemination Record of Attached Report				
Agency				
Request Recd.		301		
Date Fwd.				
How Fwd.	67 MAR 27 1967			
By				

Notations

Spec. Inq.

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COVER PAGE

FD-204 (Rev. 3-3-59)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

b6
b7C

Report of: [redacted]
Date: 2/14/67

Office: New York, New York

Field Office File #: 161-2271

Bureau File #:

Title: KATHERINE DUNHAM

Character: SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis: Social Security Numbers for the appointee set forth.

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY [illegible]

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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NY 161-2271

DETAILS:

Miscellaneous

On February 14, 1967, [redacted] Dunham Schod, 440 West 42nd Street, New York, New York, advised that information available to her reveals that the appointee has two Social Security Numbers. She stated that under the name KATHERINE DUNHAM, the Social Security Number 567-56-5878 has been assigned. She stated that the appointee under her married name of PRATT has Social Security Number 330-14-2832 assigned.

[redacted] advised that she knew of no other resident addresses for the appointee other than those previously furnished during the interview of January 25, 1967.

2/15/67

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE URGENT

b6
b7C

TO: SAC'S CHICAGO, NEW YORK, SAN FRANCISCO, LOS ANGELES, DETROIT, BALTIMORE, SEATTLE, AND PHILADELPHIA

FROM: SAC, WFO (161-4100)

CHANGED, KATHERINE DUNHAM, AKA KAY DUNN; KATHERINE PRATT; MRS. JOHN THOMAS PRATT; KATHERINE DUNHAM PRATT; KATHERINE DUNHAM MC COO; MRS. JARDIS MC COO, SPI, BUDED: PAST.

BUAIRTEL TO WFO ET AL JANUARY TWENTYSEVEN, LAST.

TITLE CHANGED TO ADD NAMES KATHERINE DUNHAM PRATT; KATHERINE DUNHAM MC COO; AND MRS. JARDIS MC COO AS APPEARING PASSPORT RECORD.

PASSPORT RECORD, STATE DEPARTMENT, DISCLOSED APPOINTEE MARRIED [redacted] AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. DATES OF MARRIAGE SHOWN AS MAY TWENTYNINE, THIRTY, AND JUNE TWELVE, THIRTYTHREE. DIVORCED HIM FEBRUARY THREE, THIRTYSIX, PLACE NOT SHOWN.

CHICAGO VERIFY RECORDS OF MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE. ALSO

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 3/7/07 BY [illegible]

1 - Teletype Unit
1 - Bureau
1 - WFO

MC 161-4820

NOT RECORDED
25 MAR 13 1967

JER:jeb
(3)
TELETYPE

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WFO 161-4100

PAGE TWO

ENDEAVOR TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW [redacted]

[redacted] CHICAGO, IN THIRTYFIVE.

ALL OFFICES CONDUCT APPROPRIATE CHECKS ON NEW NAMES.

BUREAU ADVISED.

SPIN. - P -

TELETYPE UNIT
FEB 16 1967
ENCODED MESSAGE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Wick
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

MR. CLEVELAND
ROOM 1246

FBI NEW YORK /8/

237 PM URGENT 2-16-67 JLW

TO DIRECTOR

FROM NEW YORK 161-2271 1P

KATHERINE DUNHAM AKA KAY DUNN, KATHERINE PRATT, MRS. JOHN THOMAS PRATT, KATHERINE DUNHAM PRATT, KATHERINE DUNHAM MC COO, MRS. JARDIS MC COO; SPI, BUDED PAST.

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b7C

CREDIT BUREAU, BSS AND POLICE AGENCY CHECKS, NYC, NEGATIVE FOR KATHERINE DUNHAM MC COO, MRS. JARDIS MC COO AND KATHERINE DUNHAM PRATT. NEW YORK REPORT FOLLOWS. P.

END

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY SP4 JGA/tcg

MLT FBI WASH D C

161-4870-21
NOT RECORDED
25 MAR 13 1967

ICE destroyed
61 MAR 27 1967

TELETYPE UNIT
FEB 1 6 1967
ENCODED MESSAGE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Wick
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

MR. CLEVELAND
ROOM 1246

7-01PM DEFERRED 2-16-67 MS

TO DIRECTOR

FROM SAN FRANCISCO (161-1078) 1 P

KATHERINE DUNHAM, AKA, SPI, BUDED PAST

RE WASH FIELD TEL FEBRUARY FIFTEEN LAST.

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NO CREDIT OR POLICE RECORD FOR APPOINTEE UNDER ADDITIONAL NAMES, AND CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS LISTED IN SAN FRANCISCO REPORT JANUARY THREE ONE LAST HAVE NO RECORD UNDER ADDITIONAL NAMES.

NO REPORT BEING SUBMITTED. RUC.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/7/00 BY [illegible]

END

QCC3

MSE

FBI WASH JXC

161-4870-28

NOT RECORDED
25 MAR 13 1967

3 cc destroyed
[illegible]

61 MAR 27 1967

FD [redacted] Rev. 9-17-65)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DATE	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD
LOS ANGELES	BUREAU	2/16/67	2/15 - 2/16/67

TITLE OF CASE

KATHERINE DUNHAM
aka Kay Dun,
Katherine Pratt,
Mrs. John Thomas Pratt,
Katherine Dunham Pratt,
Katherine Dunham Mc Coo,
Mrs. Jardis Mc Coo

REPORT MADE BY [redacted] (grj) | TYPED BY grj

CHARACTER OF CASE

SPI

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REFERENCE: Washington Field teletype to Chicago, 2/15/67.

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY SP4 Hcg

- A* -
COVER PAGE

Case has been: Pending over one year ☐ Yes ☐ No; Pending prosecution over six months ☐ Yes ☐ No

APPROVED [redacted] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

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1 - Los Angeles (161-1132)

161-4870-29

NOT RECORDED
4 FEB 17 1967

Dissemination Record of Attached Report				
Agency				
Request Recd.				
Date Fwd.	1 MAR 2 1967			
How Fwd.				
By				

Notations

Spec. Agt.

FD-204 (Rev. 3-3-59)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: [redacted]
Date: February 16, 1967

Office: Los Angeles, California

Field Office File #: 161-1132

Bureau File #:

Title: KATHERINE DUNHAM

b6
b7C

Character: SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis:

No credit or arrest record located at Los Angeles, California, identifiable with the appointee, KATHERINE DUNHAM, under the names of KATHERINE DUNHAM PRATT, KATHERINE DUNHAM MC COO, and Mrs. JARDIS MC COO.

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY [redacted]

DETAILS:

CREDIT AND ARREST

On February 16, 1967, the files of the following agencies as caused to be checked contained no credit or arrest record identifiable with the appointee, KATHERINE DUNHAM, under the names of KATHERINE DUNHAM PRATT, KATHERINE DUNHAM MC COO, and Mrs. JARDIS MC COO:

Retail Merchants Credit Association
Los Angeles, California
Checked by IC [redacted]

Los Angeles Sheriff's Office and
Los Angeles Police Department
Los Angeles, California
Checked by IC [redacted]

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FD-36 (Rev. 5-22-64)

FBI

Date: February 17, 1967

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, BALTIMORE (161-2309) (RUC)

SUBJECT: KATHERYN DUNHAM
aka
Buded Past
SPI

Re Baltimore teletype dated 2/1/67 and WFO teletype 2/15/67.

Additional names of the appointee, mentioned in re WFO teletype were checked through DCII on February 16, 1967 without locating any record in addition to that set forth in re Baltimore teletype.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/7/00 BY SP4 jtkcg

1 - Bureau
1 - Baltimore
JHB:kj
(2)

161-4870-3
NOT RECORDED
FEB 18 1967

301

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

FD-36 (Rev. 5-22-64)

FBI

Date: 2/17/67

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL REGULAR MAIL
(Priority)

TO DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM SAC, PHILADELPHIA (161-1066)(RUC)

RE KATHERINE DUNHAM, aka
SPI

Re WFO tel Philadelphia 2/15/67.

Files Philadelphia Division contain nothing identifiable additional names appointee set out in retel.

In view fact neither appointee nor husbands ever known to reside Philadelphia territory, no additional checks being made here UACB.

1 - Bureau
1 - Philadelphia
JJM
)2(

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY [illegible]

161-4870-31

NOT RECORDED
14 FEB 20 1967

301

61 MAR 27 1967

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

FD-263 (Rev. 9-17-65)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DATE	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD
SEATTLE	BUREAU	2/17/67	2/16/67

TITLE OF CASE

KATHERINE DUNHAM, aka
Katherine Pratt,
Mrs. John Thomas Pratt,
Katherine Dunham Pratt,
Katherine Dunham Mc Coo,
Mrs. Jardis Mc Coo

REPORT MADE BY [redacted]

TYPED BY jb

CHARACTER OF CASE

SPECIAL INQUIRY

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b7C

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

REFERENCE: Seattle report of SA [redacted] 2/1/67;
WFO teletype to Seattle, 2/15/67.

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/7/00 BY SP4bjp/tcg

- A* -

COVER PAGE

Case has been: Pending over one year ☐ Yes ☐ No; Pending prosecution over six months ☐ Yes ☐ No

APPROVED

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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COPIES MADE:

1 - Bureau

1 - Seattle (161-328)

161-4870-32

NOT RECORDED
4 FEB 20 1967

Spec. Ind.

Dissemination Record of Attached Report

Agency	361			
Request Recd.				
Date Fwd.	61 MAR 27 1967			
How Fwd.				
By				

Notations

[redacted]04 (Rev. 3-3-59)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: [redacted]
Date: February 17, 1967

Office: Seattle, Washington

Field Office File #: 161-328

Bureau File #:

Title: KATHERINE DUNHAM

Character: SPECIAL INQUIRY

b6
b7C

Synopsis: Credit and arrest check at Seattle, Washington, negative on additional names of appointee.

- RUC -

DETAILS:

Credit and arrest checks at Seattle, Washington, were conducted by Investigative Clerk [redacted]

CREDIT AND ARREST

On February 16, 1967, the names, KATHERINE DUNHAM PRATT, KATHERINE DUNHAM MC COO, AND MRS. JARDIS MC COO, were searched, with negative results, at the following agencies:

Seattle Police Department, Seattle, Washington;

King County Sheriff's Office, Seattle, Washington; and,

The Seattle Credit Bureau, Seattle, Washington.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/7/00 BY [redacted]

- 1* -

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FD-263 (Rev. 9-17-65)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DATE	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD
NEW YORK	BUREAU	2/17/67	2/16 - 17/67

TITLE OF CASE

KATHERINE DUNHAM aka
Mrs. John Thomas Pratt
Kay Dunn, Katherine Pratt,
Katherine Dunham Pratt,
Katherine Dunham McCoo,
Mrs. Jardis McCoo

REPORT MADE BY [redacted] TYPED BY vby

CHARACTER OF CASE

SPI

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b7C

REFERENCES:

NYrep of SA [redacted] dated 2/14/67.
WFO teletype to Chicago dated 2/15/67.
NY teletype to Bureau dated 2/16/67.

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/1/00 BY SP4bpltag

Case has been: Pending over one year ☐ Yes ☐ No; Pending prosecution over six months ☐ Yes ☐ No

APPROVED [signature] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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161-4870-33

COPIES MADE:

1 - Bureau (RM)
1 - New York (161-2271)

NOT RECORDED
9 FEB 20 1967

Dissemination Record of Attached Report

Agency	301			
Request Recd.				
Date Fwd.	61 MAR 27 1967			
How Fwd.				
By				

Notations

Spec Inv

- A* -
COVER PAGE

FD-204 (Rev. 3-3-59)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

b6
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Copy to:

Report of: [redacted]

Office: New York, New York

Date: 2/17/67

Field Office File #: 161-2271

Bureau File #:

Title: KATHERINE DUNHAM

Character: SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis: No credit, arrest or BSS.

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 2/7/00 BY SP-4 [illegible]

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DETAILS:

Credit

On February 16, 1967, [redacted] Credit Bureau of Greater New York, advised IC [redacted] that she could locate no record identifiable with the names KATHERINE DUNHAM MC COO, Mrs. JARDIS MC COO or KATHERINE DUNHAM PRATT.

Arrest

On February 16, 1967, SA [redacted] caused the records of the New York City Police Department (NYCPD) to be checked by [redacted] Bureau of Criminal Identification; [redacted] Information Unit; [redacted] Old Record Room (all of the above of the NYCPD); and [redacted] Fingerprint Bureau, Criminal Court of the City of New York. No record was located for KATHERINE DUNHAMMC COO, Mrs. JARDIS MC COO or KATHERINE DUNHAM PRATT.

Miscellaneous

On February 16, 1967, [redacted] Bureau of Special Services, NYCPD, advised SA [redacted] that he could locate no information concerning KATHERINE DUNHAM MC COO, Mrs. JARDIS MC COO or KATHERINE DUNHAM PRATT.

1 - Mr. Gale
1 - Mr. Cleveland
1 - Mr. Burke

Photo
CC TO: CSC-NFAA
REQ. REC'D 2-2
FEB 19 1977
ANS.
BY: JAK/JMC

February 17, 1967

BY LIAISON

Photo Cnl
CC TO: Hew
REQ. REC'D 5/27/75
JUN 16 1975
ANS.
BY: WRJ/ulm

FEB 16 11 05 AM '67
REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI

Honorable Marvin Watson
Special Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Watson:

In accordance with a request received from Mrs. Mildred Stegall on January 23, 1967, an investigation has been conducted regarding Miss Katherine Dunham. Transmitted herewith is a summary memorandum containing the results of this investigation.

The check of the records of three governmental agencies* has not been completed. When the results of these checks have been received, you will be advised.

The investigation of Miss Dunham covered inquiries in the continental United States and Mexico as to her character, loyalty, general standing, and ability but no inquiries were made as to the sources of her income.

The Acting Attorney General has not been provided a copy of this communication.

Sincerely yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/7/00 BY SP4 bya/tcg

Delivered to Mildred Stegall on 2/17/67

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161-4870 34

NOT RECORDED
25 MAR 13 1967

Enclosure
* IRS, Passport Office, and Security, Department of State

WHB:cam cam
(5)

SEE NOTE PAGE 2

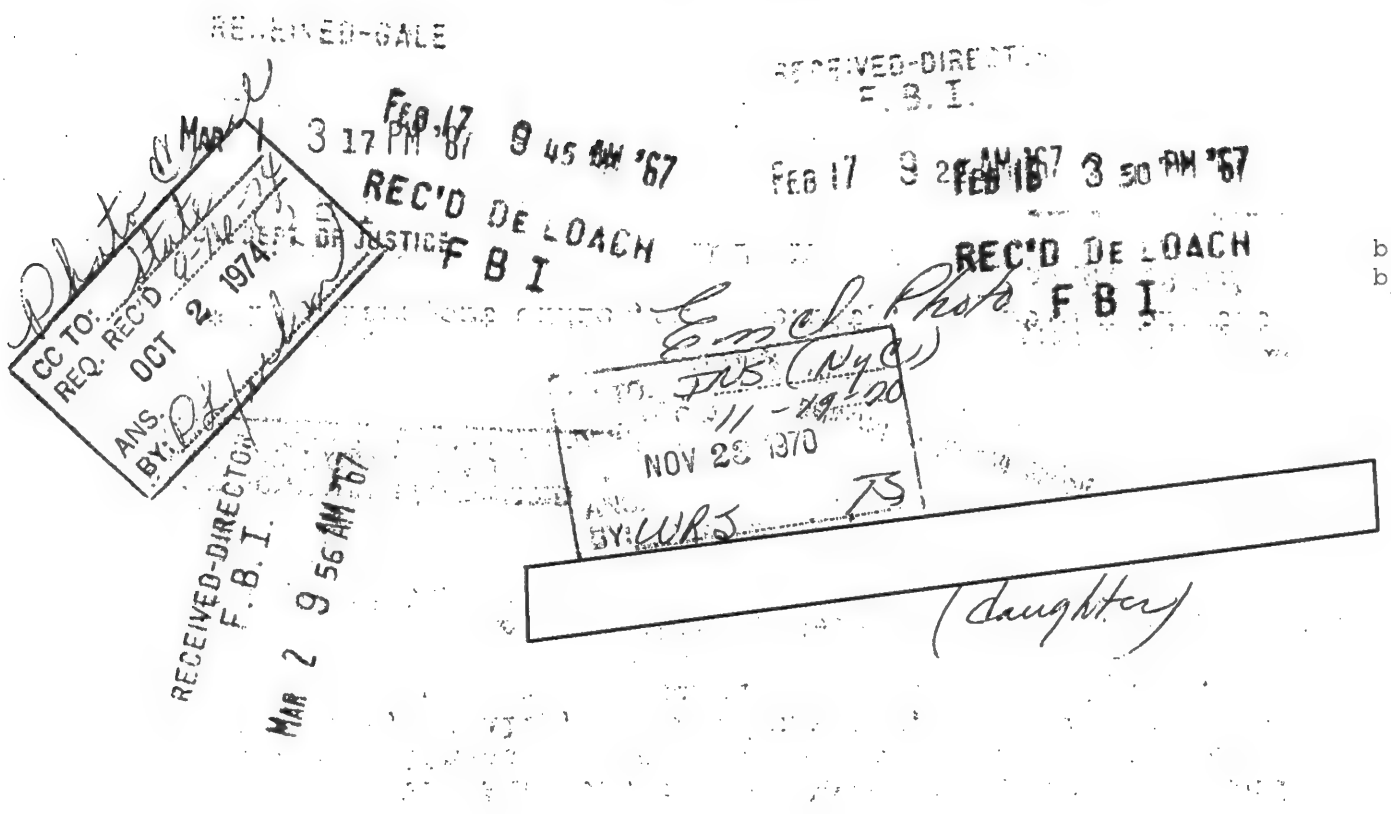
ENCLOSURE

SEE NOTE PAGE FOR
ADD. DISSEMINATION

Tolson
DeLoach
Mohr
Wick
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Return to Mr. Burke, Room 1254.


RECEIVED-DALE
Mar 1 3 17 PM '67
REC'D DE LOACH
F B I
CC TO:
REQ. REC'D
OCT 2 1974
ANS.
BY:
RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
F. B. I.
MAR 2 9 56 AM '67
RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
F. B. I.
FEB 17 9 45 AM '67
REC'D DE LOACH
F B I
RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
F. B. I.
FEB 17 9 2 AM '67
FEB 16 3 50 PM '67
REC'D DE LOACH
F B I
Encl Photo
FBI (NYC)
NOV 28 1970
BY: WRS
(daughter)

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Honorable Marvin Watson

NOTE: Request received 1/23/67 from White House. Position involved not indicated. Miss Dunham, aged 57, is a well-known Negro dancer and choreographer. She is highly regarded in the theatrical field. During 1940s and 1950s she and her troupe participated in programs which were sponsored by communist front organizations but apparently without her knowledge according to informants. She is not known to have at any time been interested in communism according to informants. She was highly recommended for a position of trust by those interviewed.

440 West 42nd St. February 17, 1967

New York, New York

REC'D-READING ROOM FEB 16 11 05 AM '67

KATHERINE DUNHAM NEE Pratt - Summary

Miss Dunham, although married Mrs [redacted] is known professionaly by her maiden name Katherine Dunham.

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I. BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

Katherine Dunham McCoo
Mrs. Jardis McCoo

Birth

Miss Dunham was born in Chicago, Illinois, on either June 22, 1909, or June 22, 1910. Various records reviewed during investigation lists her date and place of birth as indicated above. No record concerning her birth could be located in the Department of Health for the State of Illinois, it being noted that the State of Illinois did not require the filing of birth records until 1915.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY SP-4 [illegible]

Education

She enrolled at the University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, in January, 1929. She was granted a Bachelor of Physical Culture degree in August, 1936.

Foreign

During 1935 and 1936, Miss Dunham was a student in anthropology at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois.

Employment

Miss Dunham has been a dancer, dance director, and choreographer her entire adult life. While attending Northwestern University (1935 and 1936) she became interested in primitive dances and during 1936 and 1937 she was the recipient of a Julius Rosenwald Foundation Fellowship which enabled her to study native dance, ritual, and folklore in the islands of the Caribbean Sea and Brazil, South America. Thereafter she traveled to New York City where she appeared in several

WHB:cam cam

161-4870-34

ENCLOSURE

Return to Mr. Burke, Room 1254.

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

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Broadway productions. She also appeared in several motion pictures. In 1941 Miss Dunham formed a dance troupe which has since performed throughout the United States, Mexico, and other countries of the world. Miss Dunham and her troupe are presently touring in Africa. Since 1944 she has been the owner of a dance school in New York City. It was initially known as Katherine Dunham School of Arts, Incorporated, and it is now known as the Dunham School.

From September, 1964, until June, 1965, she was a visiting instructor (supervising ballets and operas) at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois. She is now or she has been a member of several professional organizations and she is the author of two books and several articles which concern herself and the dancing profession.

Marital Status

In July, 1941, Miss Dunham married [redacted]. Their address is 440 West 42nd Street, New York City. They also have a temporary residence at 167 West 85th Street, New York City. In addition, they have a home in Port-au-Prince, Haiti; however, they have not used this residence in recent years as a result of existing economic and political conditions in Haiti.

II. RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION

Interviews

Jacob K. Javits, United States Senator from New York, when interviewed in Washington, D. C., advised he is not acquainted with Miss Dunham and could furnish no information concerning her.

[redacted] Dunham School, New York City, advised she has been affiliated with Miss Dunham for the past five years. She mentioned that Miss Dunham and her troupe of dancers are presently touring Africa and they anticipate returning to the United States in March, 1967. She mentioned that Miss Dunham originally entered the theatrical

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Katherine Dunham

profession in 1933 in Chicago, Illinois, and since that time Miss Dunham has been active in more than fifty different stage plays, theater performances, and motion pictures. [redacted] stated that Miss Dunham is known as an outstanding choreographer and she has been responsible for the choreography in more than two dozen various plays within the United States and abroad. She stated there is no question concerning Miss Dunham's character, reputation, loyalty, habits, morals, or integrity. She said Miss Dunham is entirely trustworthy and dependable and she highly recommended her for a position of trust and responsibility with the Federal Government.

[redacted] Hurok Attractions, Incorporated, Los Angeles, California, advised she has been acquainted with Miss Dunham since 1941. She said she regards Miss Dunham as one of her best friends. They originally became acquainted in Los Angeles, California, on a social basis; however, from 1944 until 1947 she traveled with Miss Dunham and was engaged as Miss Dunham's company manager and assistant stage manager. She stated in 1962 she was associated with Miss Dunham in New York City in connection with a stage production. [redacted] mentioned she is also acquainted with Miss Dunham's husband, [redacted] and she considers him a very thoughtful and responsible person whose character, reputation, and loyalty are above question. She mentioned that [redacted] had been employed by Miss Dunham prior to their marriage and he traveled with Miss Dunham's dance troupe as the troupe's designer. [redacted] stated she has always admired Miss Dunham as a person and as an artist. She commented favorably concerning Miss Dunham's character, reputation, loyalty, and associates. [redacted] mentioned that on many occasions while touring in foreign countries Miss Dunham has had opportunities to criticize the treatment of the Negro in American society; however, she always refused to do so pointing out that the opportunities available to minority groups and individuals in the United States are unlimited. [redacted] also mentioned that Miss Dunham has an adopted daughter [redacted] This daughter is presently appearing in a theatrical production in Paris, France. She said she has a high regard for Miss Dunham's daughter. [redacted] highly recommended Miss Dunham for a position of trust with the United States Government.

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Katherine Dunham

[redacted] in New York City, advised that she has been acquainted with Miss Dunham since 1929. She stated they attended the University of Chicago at the same time. She said she was also acquainted with Miss Dunham's brother, Albert, as well as her parents, all of whom are deceased. Mrs. Wolf stated she is also acquainted with Miss Dunham's husband [redacted] and she has a high regard for him. She stated over the years in an unprofessional way she has assisted Miss Dunham in connection with the management of her troupe. She said she knows Miss Dunham is held in high regard by her associates in the theatrical business and she considers Miss Dunham a pathfinder in helping Negroes establish themselves in the theatre. She said she has been given no reason to question Miss Dunham's character, reputation, loyalty, or associates and she highly recommended Miss Dunham for a position of trust and confidence.

[redacted] who has been active in the arts in New York City for many years, advised she has been acquainted with Miss Dunham since 1945. She is also acquainted with Miss Dunham's husband, [redacted] as well as her daughter [redacted] She furnished favorable comments regarding the character, reputation, loyalty, morals, habits, and associates of Miss Dunham and her close relatives. She stated Miss Dunham is a well-educated person who over the years has demonstrated she is a good organizer and effective writer. She stated further Miss Dunham is known in the theatrical world as a talented dancer and choreographer. She highly recommended Miss Dunham for a position of trust and responsibility with the Federal Government.

Twenty-one additional persons, including social acquaintances and professional associates, were interviewed, and they furnished favorable comments regarding Miss Dunham's character, reputation, loyalty, morals, habits, and associates. Those well acquainted with Miss Dunham stated she is an intelligent individual, a good organizer, and effective writer, and she is known in the theatrical world as an outstanding dancer and choreographer. She was recommended for a position of trust and confidence. Persons acquainted with Miss Dunham's close relatives stated they are reputable individuals and their loyalty to the United States is above question.

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Katherine Dunham

Close Relatives

Father	Albert Milland Dunham Deceased
Mother	Annette Poindexter Dunham Deceased
Daughter	[redacted] currently appearing in a theatrical production in Paris, France
Brother	Albert Dunham Deceased

Credit and Arrest Checks

Information has been received from the appropriate credit reporting and law enforcement agencies in the United States and Mexico indicating that their files contain no information concerning Miss Dunham or her close relatives.

Miscellaneous

Informants who have furnished reliable information in the past have advised that during the 1940s and early 1950s Miss Dunham and members of her dance troupe participated in fund-raising programs which were sponsored by such organizations as the American Youth for Democracy; Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee; National Council of American-Soviet Friendship; California Labor School, Incorporated; National Negro Congress; Philadelphia School of Social Science and Art; and the Civil Rights Congress.

American Youth for Democracy; Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee; National Council of American-Soviet Friendship; California Labor School, Incorporated; National Negro Congress; Philadelphia School of Social Science and Art; and the Civil Rights Congress have been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

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Katherine Dunham

The aforementioned informants also advised that Katherine Dunham was listed as a sponsor in the 1940s of such organizations as the Committee for Equal Justice for [redacted] Southern Conference for Human Welfare; and the Citizens Non-Partisan Committee to Elect Benjamin J. Davis to the New York City Council.

The Committee for Equal Justice for [redacted] Southern Conference for Human Welfare; and the Citizens Non-Partisan Committee to Elect Benjamin J. Davis to the New York City Council have been cited as communist front organizations by the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

According to the aforementioned informants Miss Dunham was not an active participant in any of the organizations mentioned hereinbefore and they have no knowledge that she at any time was sympathetic toward communism. She was, however, desirous of advancing the rights of the Negroes.

Agency Checks

[redacted]

Information has been received from the following governmental agencies indicating that their files contain either no record or no additional pertinent information regarding Miss Dunham:

Bureau of Personnel Investigations, Civil Service Commission; House Committee on Un-American Activities; United States Secret Service; Naval Investigative Service, Office of Naval Intelligence; Defense Central Index of Investigations, Fort Holabird, Maryland; and the White House Office.

Katherine Dunham

The central files of the FBI, including the files of the Identification Division, contain no additional pertinent information regarding Miss Dunham.

FD-263 (Rev. 9-17-65)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DATE	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD
CHICAGO	BUREAU	2/18/67	2/16 - 17/67

TITLE OF CASE

KATHERINE DUNHAM, aka.

REPORT MADE BY: SA [redacted] TYPED BY: flk

CHARACTER OF CASE

SPI

b6
b7C

REFERENCE: Washington Field teletype to Chicago dated 2/15/67.

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY SP-4 [illegible]

- A* -
COVER PAGE

Case has been: Pending over one year ☐ Yes ☐ No; Pending prosecution over six months ☐ Yes ☐ No

APPROVED [illegible] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

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1 - Bureau (AM)

1 - Chicago (161-1413)

NOT RECORDED
18 FEB 20 1967

Dissemination Record of Attached Report

Agency	3			
Request Recd.				
Date Fwd.				
How Fwd.	61 MAR 27 1967			
By				

Notations

FD-26 (Rev. 3-3-59)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: SA [redacted] Office: Chicago b6 b7C
Date: 2/18/67

Field Office File #: 161-1413 Bureau File #:

Title: KATHERINE DUNHAM

Character: SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis: Marriage and divorce verified. Employment by Chicago Public Library verified. Appointee's former husband comments favorably. Credit and arrest checks negative.

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/1/00 BY [signature]

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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DETAILS:

Marriage

On February 16, 1967, IC [redacted], checked the records of the Bureau of Vital Statistics, Cook County, Illinois, at Chicago, Illinois, and located a marriage license number 1277303 filed on June 2, 1930, which reflects that [redacted] married Miss KATHERINE M. DUNHAM on May 29, 1930. This was the first marriage for each of these partners.

Divorce

On February 17, 1967, IC [redacted] checked the records of the Superior Court of Cook County, Illinois, Chicago, Illinois. Docket number 39 S 1165 reflects that [redacted] filed a complaint for divorce on February 2, 1939, against K. D. MC COO, [redacted] The complaint reflects they were married May 29, 1930, at Chicago, and she left him on August 1, 1937. A decree for divorce was entered May 3, 1939, by Judge RUDOLPH F. DESORT.

Miscellaneous

On February 17, 1967 [redacted] advised that he met the appointee about 1928 or 1929 and they were married in May of 1930. He said she was a University of Chicago student and an employee of the Chicago Public Library during their marriage. He stated her career in dancing was getting underway in the 1930's and she did have some performances at the Chicago Civic Opera during the World's Fair and was also in the Ballet L'Ag'Ya for a period. [redacted] said they had a very pleasant and happy marriage until they had disagreements and mutually consented to separation in an adult manner. He stated the divorce did not involve any scandal or notoriety. He stated he has not seen her for about

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25 years but did meet several times after 1937 in a congenial atmosphere at her mother's residence in Joliet, Illinois.

[redacted] said he regarded the appointee as a loyal American citizen of good character, reputation and morals. He stated he knew nothing of an adverse nature concerning her. He said he knows of no one in the Chicago area that knows her.

Employment

Chicago Public Library
Chicago, Illinois

On February 17, 1967, [redacted] advised KATHERINE DUNHAM washired June 26, 1928, under Civil Service as a junior library clerk. She changed her name to KATHERINE MC COO on June 11, 1930, and terminated as of October 16, 1933. [redacted] said the appointee was actually employed only during the following periods:

June 26, 1928 - December 26, 1928
August 26, 1929 - October 1, 1930
February 2, 1931 - June 19, 1933

[redacted] stated she personally recalls the appointee as a satisfactory employee whose loyalty and moral character she had no reason to question.

She said she knows of no one else employed by the library who would have known the appointee.

Credit and Arrest

On February 17, 1967, [redacted] and personnel of the Chicago Credit Bureau, Incorporated, and personnel of the Chicago Police Department, Bureau of Records and Communications, advised IC [redacted] that they have no record of the appointee as MC COO or her former husband [redacted]

FBI WASH DC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
FEB 21 1967
TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Wick	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

FBI DETROIT

1231PM URGENT 2-21-67 JRM

TO DIRECTOR

FROM DETROIT (161-673) (RUC) 1P

MR. CLEVELAND
ROOM 6246

KATHERINE DUNHAM, AKA. KAY DUNN, KATHERINE PRATT, MRS. JOHN THOMAS PRATT, KATHERINE DUNHAM PRATT, KATHERINE DUNHAM MC COO, MRS. JARDIS MC COO; SPI; BUDED: PAST.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/7/07 BY SP-1 bgr/gw

RE WASHINGTON FIELD TELETYPE TO CHICAGO DATED FEBRUARY FIFTEEN, LAST; AND DETROIT REPORT OF SA [redacted] DATED FEBRUARY ONE, LAST.

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THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES ON FEBRUARY TWENTY, LAST, ADVISED IC [redacted], THAT THEIR FILES CONTAINED NO DEROGATORY CREDIT INFORMATION OR RECORD OF ARREST IDENTIFIABLE WITH KAY DUNN KATHERINE DUNHAM PRATT, KATHERINE DUNHAM MC COO, OR MRS. JARDIS MC COO.

[redacted] CREDIT DATA CORPORATION, DETROIT MICH., [redacted] MERCHANTS CREDIT BUREAU, DETROIT; [redacted] BUREAU OF IDENTIFICATION, DETROIT PD; [redacted] TRAFFIC COURT, DETROIT; AND [redacted] WAYNE COUNTY SO, DETROIT.

END.

RAM 61 MAR 27 1967

FBI WASH DC

161-4870-36

NOT RECORDED
25 MAR 13 1967

-36 ([redacted]5-22-64)

FBI

Date: 2/24/67

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, WFO (161-4100) (P)

KATHERINE DUNHAM, aka
SPI

ReWFOteletype to Chicago, dated 2/15/67.

To date the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has been unable to locate any income tax data concerning appointee. IRS interested in knowing date appointee plans to return to this country so she can be interviewed by IRS. Bureau please advise date of return if known.

Attached as a part of this airtel are results of agency checks at the State Department, Security Office, the Personnel Locater files, and the State Department Division of Americans Abroad, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Documents pertaining to the appointee from the Division of Americans Abroad are also attached hereto, some of which are classified "Confidential, Group 4" and, therefore, the attachments are being so classified. Also attached are the results of the State Department passport check.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY SP4 by HCG

161-4870-37

NOT RECORDED
25 MAR 13 1967

1- Bureau
1- WFO

JER:eec
(2)

AIRTEL 301

ENCLOSURE

18

61 MAR 27 1967

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

WFO 161-4100

LEAD

WASHINGTON FIELD

AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

Will maintain liaison with IRS concerning income tax check.

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Appointee's file at the Passport Office, Department of State, part of which was made available for review on 2/15/67 and the completed file on 2/21/67, was reviewed by IC [redacted] It indicated appointee was born 6/22/1912, at Chicago, Illinois.

On 4/7/1947 appointee was issued New York Series Passport #1796 in the name of KATHERINE DUNHAM PRATT for proposed travel of three months' duration to Mexico for "prof. engagement." On the passport application, which was dated 4/4/1947 at New York City, she listed permanent residence as 57 Park Avenue, New York, New York. It indicated that she was last married on 7/10/1941 [redacted] She stated that she was previously married [redacted] on 6/12/1933 at Chicago, Illinois, and that this marriage was terminated by divorce on 2/3/36.

The passport files reflect that KATHERINE DUNHAM MC COO, known as ~~KATHERINE DUNHAM~~, was first issued passport #207877 at Washington, D.C., on June 8, 1935, for proposed travel to the British Isles for six months for the ~~purpose~~ of travel. She stated she was born 6/22/1909 at Chicago, Illinois. The file does not indicate that a birth certificate was seen by passport authorities but the Passport Office then accepted this birth information from her inasmuch as her father, ALBERT M. DUNHAM, then residing at 408 S. Joliet Street, Joliet, Illinois, served as her identifying witness, stating he had known her for twenty-five years. Her permanent residence then was Vincennes Avenue, Chicago. She stated that she was married on 5/29/1930 [redacted] and then residing at 3638 S. Parkway, Chicago.

By letter dated 2/7/1943 from 20 Romolo Place, San Francisco, she requested the return of her passport which had been taken up at the Canadian border on 6/5/1942. The file shows that her 1935 passport was cancelled and returned to her on 3/16/1943.

On 4/1/1949 at the American Embassy, Rome, Italy, she had passport #1796 renewed (to be valid until 4/1/1951). On the renewal application, she listed her legal residence as 220 West 43rd Street, New York, New York.

On 7/20/1951 at Port au Prince, Haiti, she was issued passport #180 for travel to all countries not under restrictions. She listed her legal residence as 220 West 43rd Street, New York City. The passport was issued in the name of KATHERINE DUNHAM PRATT, aka, KATHERINE DUNHAM. On 10/9/1953 at the American Consular Service, Habana, Cuba, she had passport #180 renewed for two years (to expire 7/20/1955). Her renewal application indicated she represented the KATHERINE DUNHAM THEATER PRODUCTIONS, Inc., 220 W. 43rd Street, New York.

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On 8/11/1955, appointee was issued passport #2132 at Mexico, D.F., in the name of KATHERINE DUNHAM PRATT for travel to Mexico and Cuba for " professional purposes." The passport application showed she was residing at Cerrada de la Amargura 22, San Angel Inn, Mexico, D.F.Mexico. She indicated that she was last married on 7/11/1950 [redacted] She requested that her mother, Mrs. ANNETTE DUNHAM, 112 S. Joliet Street, Joliet, Illinois, be notified in the event of death or accident.

On 8/3/1964, appointee was issued passport #E-574315 in the name of KATHERINE DUNHAM PRATT, aka, KATHERINE DUNHAM for proposed travel of six weeks' duration to Italy, France and England on business. The passport application reflected she was previously issued passport #250452 issued 8/20/1959 and which was renewed on February, 1962. The 1964 passport application was supported by a supplementary affidavit dated 7/31/1964, at New York, New York, regarding change of name which was furnished [redacted] in which he stated that he had known KATHERINE DUNHAM PRATT, aka, KATHERINE DUNHAM, residing at Hotel Chelsea, 222 W. 23rd Street, New York City, New York, since 1941. Another affidavit dated 7/31/64, at New York, New York, [redacted] indicated she had known KATHERINE DUNHAM PRATT, aka, KATHERINE DUNHAM, residing at the Hotel Chelsea, 23rd Street, New York City, New York, for ten years and that the appointee assumed the names by marriage on or about 1941.

On her 1964 passport application, appointee indicated that she was last married on 7/10/1941 [redacted] She listed her parents as ALBERT MILLARD DUNHAM, born 3/27/1887 at Memphis, Tennessee, and ANNETTE POINDEXTER, born 2/17/1888 at Alton, Illinois.

KATHERINE DUNHAM PRATT was issued Passport # 250452 at Paris, France, on 8/20/1959 for proposed travel in France and other countries on personal business. She stated she had been in Mexico from August, 1947, to December, 1947, and had had numerous trips abroad from 1948 to July, 1959, and had been in France since July, 1959.

She gave as her legal residence 608 5th Avenue, New York City, New York, and was then residing at the Hotel Roblin in Paris.

She stated she was last married 7/10/1941 at Tecata, Mexico, to [redacted] an American citizen, then residing in Paris.

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Appearing in the passport file was the following telegram from Milan to the Department of State, dated October 17, 1952;

Subject: Non-Attendance at a Reception for the American Dancer, KATHERINE DUNHAM.

This office received a number of invitations for a reception given by the Casa della Cultura (House of Culture) for the American dancer, KATHERINE DUNHAM, on October 11, 1952. None of the officers or employees attended the reception, and as the question might arise, it is thought advisable to inform the Department of the reason for non-attendance.

The Casa della Cultura appears to be either a Communist, or Communist dominated, organization disguised as a "house of culture." Members of the committee are, with two exceptions, considered either as Communists or Nenni-Socialists (the latter belong to the PSI, an Italian Socialist party cooperating with the Communists). These individuals are:

[redacted] PSI

Members: [redacted]

[redacted] Provincial Peace Partisans (Communist)

[redacted] (Communist)

[redacted] a poet (Communist)

[redacted] (Communist

[redacted] (PSI)

[redacted] (PSI)

[redacted] (PSI)

[redacted] (Politics unknown, probably PSI)

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[redacted] are said to be either editors or writers of "AVANTI," the PSI newspaper.

The invitations gave no indications of the political character of the committee sponsoring the Casa della Cultura but the inference is that it is a Communist front organization disguised as a cultural organization.

It is not known if Miss DUNHAM knew the political character of the Casa della Cultura.

A communication dated August 15, 1955, from the American Embassy, Mexico, D. F., disclosed that KATHERINE DUNHAM PRATT applied for a new passport on August 8, 1955, at the above Embassy. As the result of the usual security made on each applicant, it was indicated in the Mexican newspaper "Popular" dated August 10, 1949, that among those listed as having signed the Convocation of the Peace Congress (Stockholm Appeal), appeared the name of KATHERINE DUNHAM (PRATT), dancer.

Inasmuch as Mrs. PRATT was issued passport number 180/FS 267083 on July 20, 1951, at Port-au-Prince, Haiti, it is assumed that her alleged signing has been explained to the Department's satisfaction, and she, therefore, was not questioned concerning the matter.

Passport number 2132/FS 122012 was issued to her by this Embassy on August 11, 1955, to facilitate her travel to Cuba, after a brief visit to Los Angeles, California.

The files of the Passport Office contained no additional pertinent information.

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The files of the Office of Security, Department of State, were caused to be searched by SA [redacted] and it was determined on February 17, 1967, that they contained no additional pertinent information concerning the appointee.

[redacted] Personnel Locater, Employee Services Center, Department of State, and [redacted] Personnel Files, Record Services Division, Department of State, advised SA [redacted] on February 15, 1967, that they could locate no record indicating that the appointee had ever been an employee of the Department of State.

On February 15, 1967, [redacted] Division of Americans Abroad, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State, advised SA [redacted] on February 16, 1967, that the records of her office reflected that the appointee, KATHERINE DUNHAM, was awarded a grant on July 9, 1965, under the provisions of Public Law 87-256 (The Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, approved on September 21, 1961), as an American Specialist in the Field of Dance, to go to Dakar, Senegal, for a total period of 189 days from November 15, 1965, to May 15, 1966. [redacted] stated, however, that her office had experienced considerable difficulty with the appointee in connection with her grant, and she actually went to Dakar on December 16, 1965, returning to Paris, France, on December 21, 1965. She stayed in Paris from that date until March 4, 1966, when she returned to Dakar. Her grant terminated on August 30, 1966. [redacted] commented that her office had had "no end of trouble with her" regarding travel arrangements, salary, per diem, requests to be allowed expenses for excess baggage, and many other matters. She indicated that after the trouble experienced by her office in connection with the appointee's grant, it is doubtful if she would

again be recommended by her office for a similar grant in the future, although she emphasized that this would be a decision which would not be her's [redacted] to make. [redacted] advised that she had checked in other areas of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs to ascertain if the appointee might have received any other grants from the State Department. She reported that she could locate nothing regarding any additional grants made to the appointee. [redacted] recommended that the American Specialist file on the appointee, maintained in her office, gave a better overall picture of the difficulties experienced by the Department of State in connection with appointee's grant and any personal recollection she might have. b6 b7C b7D

The American Specialist file for the appointee, maintained in the Division of Americans Abroad, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State, contained copies of the attached documents which have been furnished to the FBI by the Division of Americans Abroad, and may be retained by the FBI. These documents, some of which are classified "Confidential" set forth the background information concerning appointee's grant, and contained details regarding difficulties experienced by the Department of State in connection with the grant. Some of these documents are classified "Confidential, Group 4," and are attached hereto.

ORIGIN/ACTION

CU-4

RM/R	REP	AF
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ARA	EUR	FE
NEA	CU	INR
E	P	IO
	1	
L	FBO	AID
	C/Y	
	1	
AGR	COM	FRB
INT	LAB	TAR
TR	XMB	AIR
ARMY	CIA	NAVY
OSD	USIA	NSA
	10	

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

Original to be filed in CU Decentralized Files.

CU

FILE DESIGNATION

A-30

NO.

UNCLASSIFIED

HANDLING INDICATOR

COPY FLC-PBR

TO : AmEmbassy DAKAR

FROM : Department of State, CU/ECS/AA DATE: MAY 19 3 29 PM '66

SUBJECT : EDUCATION AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE: Katherine DUNHAM, American Specialist

REF : Dakar A-369

1. The Department awarded an American Specialist grant to Miss Katherine Dunham for a period of 189 days with the provision that she enter on duty in Dakar on November 13, 1965 and complete her grant period on May 17, 1966. According to the grant she was supposed to be in duty status in Dakar for 183 days. An additional four days were provided for travel to and from Dakar and 2 days for briefing and debriefing, making a total of 189 days.

According to information available to the Department, Miss Dunham was on duty in Dakar for six days from December 16 to 21, 1965 and returned for duty on March 4, 1966. Consequently, under the provisions of the grant, Miss Dunham's duty status in Dakar will be terminated on August 30, 1966, allowing 2 days for travel to her home and one day for debriefing.

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Up to the present time the following compensation payments have been made to Miss Dunham:

July 30 briefing and compensation from 11/13-20	$297.00	9 days
Compensation from 11/21 - 12/4	462.00	14 days
Compensation from 12/5 - 12/18	462.00	14 days
Compensation from 3/4 - 4/9, 1966	1,221.00	37 days
Compensation from 4/10 - 4/20	462.00	14 days
Total	2,904.00	88 days

ALL RELIEF INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY SP4bjaltcg

UNCLASSIFIED

FORM 4-63 DS-323

FOR DEPT. USE ONLY

☐ In ☒ Out

Drafted by: CU/ECS/AA:BZempleny:lam 5/18/66

Drafting Date: 5/18/66

Contents and Classification Approved by:

Clearances: CU/AF :

301

161-4870-37

ENCLOSURE

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1963 O - 652219(123)

compensation payments from November 13 to December 18 were made on the assumption that Miss Dunham entered on duty November 13, 1965 as provided for in her grant.

During the period from November 13 to December 18 Miss Dunham received compensation for 37 days when she was on duty for 6 days only. This overpayment for 31 days will be adjusted before the termination of her grant.

Miss Dunham will continue to receive compensation for a total of 189 days, provided that she remains on duty in Dakar for the entire period of her grant.

2. Miss Dunham was awarded an American Specialist grant for the specific purpose of remaining in Dakar for a period of six months and to carry out her mission there in cooperation with the Embassy. Miss Dunham accepted the terms of the grant and signed the letter accompanying the grant.

Miss Dunham's departure from Dakar to Paris after being on duty for six days was not authorized by the Department and was not suggested by the Embassy. Since Miss Dunham did not perform any authorized duties in Paris under the provisions of her grant, the Department can not accede to her request for the payment of compensation or per diem during her stay in Paris.

Concerning Miss Dunham's insurance claims, the Department is in no position to make any decision. Since Miss Dunham was covered by insurance provided by the Department, she should establish her claim with the insurance company. It will be up to the insurance company to determine whether her medical and hospital expenses were due to her accident in Dakar or due to her chronic arthritic condition.

3. The Department can not consider extending Miss Dunham's grant beyond the termination date on August 30, 1966.

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file Dance D

July 30, 1963

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MEMORANDUM FOR: CU/RAS - [redacted]

FROM: [redacted]

SUBJECT: Katherine Dunham

Yesterday, Katherine Dunham came in to see me -- an appointment arranged by [redacted] She has been in several times in the past to discuss a possible tour under the Cultural Presentations Program. She has apparently, for some years, been led to expect she would be sent out under this Program but has never actually had an offer. We are still unable to make her an offer as the Panel did not select her. I have explained this to her including a detailed description of the selection process. I talked with her about the possibility of taking a Specialist's tour for us. She is interested in the idea but has not agreed to do so. She is going to Africa next week as the guest of three governments (Senegal, Nigeria, and I have forgotten the third) to advise them on their World's Fair Exhibits. On her return, she is doing Aida with the Metropolitan and will be available about the 15th of October and, at that point, might be interested in a tour for us. I told her we would have to find a suitable area. She knows the world very well and has toured very widely in almost every major capital. She thinks that for lectures the Far East would probably be best and most receptive to lecture techniques.

Another possibility she mentioned was Latin America with emphasis on the smaller cities.

Miss Dunham is to be in touch with me after her return from Africa. I think she would be a superb lecturer in a number of areas. You might care to be thinking about this.

cc: CU/FE - [redacted]
CU/ARA -
CU/CP -

ALL [illegible] CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY SP-4 [illegible]

CU:LMBattle:eff

161-4870-37

ENCLOSURE

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
5010-104

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : CU/CP - [redacted]

DATE: February 11, 1964

FROM : CU/ECS:AA - [redacted]

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SUBJECT: Request for evaluation by Dance Panel.

Name: Katherine Dunham, dancer, choreographer.

Proposal: Miss Dunham has come to the Department on a number of occasions to discuss the possibility of taking a company of dancers abroad for the Department of State. For a number of reasons such a tour is not possible, but the possibility has been discussed of sending Miss Dunham out alone as an American Specialist to lecture on dance in the United States.

We do not know that she is seriously interested in going out without her company, but before approaching her to ascertain the extent of her interest, we wish to ask the panel members this question:

> In your opinion is it desirable to send Katherine Dunham abroad as a lecturer on American dance? If so, any suggestions which you may have concerning areas of the world in which she would be most effective and ways in which she could be programmed would be appreciated. Our tentative thought has been that she might be sent to the Far East or to Latin America.

Biographic Information:

Born 1910, Chicago.
Graduate, University of Chicago.
Studied dance in Chicago; did research in the dances of the West Indies, '36-'37.
Producer-Director, Katherine Dunham Dance Company.
Has made various tours of the United States and Europe with her company under such names as Bal Negre, Tropical Revue, New Tropical Revue, etc.
Established Katherine Dunham School of Cultural Arts, New York, '45.
Has contributed articles to magazines under the pseudonym of K. Dunn; author of books on the dance.
Address: 57 Park Avenue, New York City.

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/7/00 BY SP-4 bja/tcg

161-4870-37

ENCLOSURE

[redacted]tein CU/CP NYC
(Drafting Office and Officer)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: February 12, 1964

SUBJECT: Katherine Dunham for Specialists

PARTICIPANTS: [redacted] CU/CP
[redacted] Dance Panel members listed below

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COPIES TO: [redacted]
American Specialists

Dance

[redacted] called to ask me to call/Panel members regarding the following information: "In your opinion is it desirable to send Katherine Dunham abroad as a lecturer on American dance? If so, any suggestions you may have concerning areas of the world in which she would be most effective and ways she could be programmed would be appreciated. Our tentative thought has been that she might be sent to the Far East or Latin America."

[redacted] No, it is not desirable. She is not representative of American dance, but a specialized (Caribbean) aspect of it. "She's trouble - do you want another [redacted] She does not pay her own people, and is only interested in feathering her own nest; she loves money, and just wants a grant. She is unprincipled, and caused a hassle in Australia which got in all the newspapers, when she was there on her own. She loses her temper, and "you couldn't police her at all." If a Negro dance specialist is wanted, [redacted] would recommend [redacted] or Pearl Primus, both of whom are highly qualified as specialists and "have brains." For the record, [redacted] would object to Miss Dunham on the grounds of being "too specialized and having the wrong personality to represent us abroad."

[redacted] In principle, it sounds like a marvelous idea, but [redacted] has heard several stories about how difficult she is to get along with, and to handle, and would have to check these out before giving

FORM DS-1254
3-61

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161-4870-37
ENCLOSURE

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before giving a final opinion.

[redacted] He has not seen Katherine Dunham for quite a number of years. As he remembers her work a long time ago she was an intellectual, very charming, and would be capable of doing a very good lecture because of her training and education in the specialized area of ethnic dance and folklore of the West Indies. She has a good deal of temperament which has caused problems in her professional life, but might not exist if she was alone. Because of her interest in the ethnic life in the West Indies, she would be a natural for South America. She is shrewd theatrically, all style, looks and charm, which was based on her physical attractiveness; she is not a technician. He would hope that unless there is a specific request for her in a special place, that this could be considered when all the Panel members were present at the March 19 meeting, since he does not know her personally.

[redacted] Although [redacted] does not know her personally, but only as a performer, she would go along with the idea. She is a graduate anthropologist from the University of Chicago, very bright and attractive. [redacted] imagines she has knowledge of several languages since she has been abroad so many times. She would hope that she would not take a production as her productions of late have been of the nightclub type. Her charm as a performer and her knowledge of ethnic forms and anthropology are what she would base her approval on.

[redacted] Thinks it might be a good idea because she speaks very well, however, her subject should not be American dance, but what she is best qualified to speak on - The contribution of the Negro to the dance in the New World (the Americas, North and South). Only 1/10 of her programs are U.S.; the rest is Brazilian and Caribbean, etc. She is a difficult woman and has had problems with her own dancers, but if she could be held to lecturing, it might be all right, with reservations regarding her qualifications to represent to the fullest the art of the dance in America (since she is a very specialized specialist) and with certain personality reservations. Upon reflection, [redacted] added that the subject he named might serve to pinpoint that the Negro is different in America, and the Department might not want to show that aspect.

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[redacted] (2/14/64) It is an ideal thing; she is educated, has done research, is presentable and has had wide experience. She was at a symphosium at the Manhattan School of Music some years ago where she gave a lecture with illustrated material, slides, etc. which was very good. She has a strong personality, but if kept in the framework of a lecture, it can be channeled.

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
5010-104

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

TO : FILES

DATE: February 19, 1964

FROM : [redacted]

SUBJECT: Katherine Dunham

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On February 6th [redacted] said that he thought Katherine Dunham would be an excellent lecturer, a good representative of this country. He is not sure she would want to go out without her troupe but she would be pleased to be invited. She is a bit annoyed with the indifference of the Department but she is a charming person, very cultivated and talks well.

[redacted] seem to agree that Miss Dunham would be a good representative.

On February 10th [redacted] said that Miss Dunham's team had been turned down for the Cultural Presentations Program because it was too erotic, but he did not want to tell her that this was the reason. We discussed the possibility of her going alone as a lecturer. He says he thinks she's a bit too fat for a lecture demonstration now and would do us little good. He said that [redacted] had suggested to her when she was in his office that she might go out alone as an American Specialist but that she did not take him up, and he, [redacted] thinks we ought not to renew the suggestion.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

161-4870-37

13

ENCLOSURE

3 MAR 1964

Dear Miss Dunham:

Since I received your January letter, I have made rather extensive investigations to see if we could not, in some way, utilize your talents or those of your company at the Berlin Festival and in other parts of Europe. You have shown such great interest in our educational and cultural exchange program and I have such admiration for you as a person, that I have been particularly hopeful we could work out something which would be interesting for you and which would also fit into our broader program plans. I am sorry to report that I have not been successful.

As I have already explained to you, it is necessary that our programs for performing artists fit broad objectives laid down for each area of the world, that they be approved by non-governmental panels and that they be planned many months ahead. If in any case, however deserving, we ignore our usual procedures, we invite a great deal of trouble from other artists, from the public and from Congress. I have to assure Congress that the program is always governed by decisions, made months in advance, by a panel of experts, not by my own fiat.

In order to see whether we might be able to suggest that you go alone as a lecturer and consultant, we have canvassed requests from our posts overseas and reviewed objectives for our program of lecturers, but unfortunately lectures on the dance do not receive a high enough priority listing to enable us to include such a tour at the present time as part of our small program.

In any case, you have indicated that you would much prefer to travel with your troupe and I am not sure that we could have enticed you to go out alone.

I am sorry to have to write a discouraging answer to a person who is so much interested in international cultural exchange and who has so often performed abroad with great success, but I am sure you will understand some of the limitations, fiscal and otherwise, under which we have to work.

It is always a pleasure to see you.

b6
b7C

Sincerely,

[redacted]

Miss Katherine Dunham
Hotel Chelsea
New York, New York

14

161-4870-37

ENCLOSURE

C
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January 18th 1965
University Courts Apt. N.
Carbondale, Illinois
U.S.A.

Ambassador Mercer Cook
Ambassador of the United States
DAKAR, Senegal.

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

May I offer late congratulations on your new post. I assume that it will be a most rewarding one, particularly in view of the World Festival of Negro Arts in Dakar. During the past one and a half years I have been in constant and close contact with the Senegalese government, hoping to be able to contribute both to the overall plan and the Performing Arts Program.

It has not been possible for me to spend a great deal of time in meetings in New York, but I have been able to be of some service I believe in Italy, Sweden and Paris. Upon returning to New York I found a greatly expanded American Committee, including a number of people who will I hope insure the success of the American participation.

Unfortunately the budget for the performing arts does not allow for any one company to present a full evening or it seems even a major work of any length. Since our company has made such an impact upon other countries of the world, I feel that it would be a great loss if we were not fully represented to best advantage at the Festival. I have therefore suggested to Ambassador Alioune Diop and to His Excellency President Senghor that they sollicit our presence through the State Department.

I believe that we once spoke about the fact that our company has never benefited in subsidy for any of our touring and this as you can imagine, has been a great blow economically on keeping solvent. I no longer try to subsidize the full company between tours but have reestablished a School in New York, making use of some of the members as instructors. We have available on a short rehearsal notice the full reportoire and company which has meant so much to both sophisticated and emerging countries the world over.

It would now seem time for us to receive subsidy for a tour no matter how brief, and surely there could be no better occasion than at the Festival. From experience in South America, the Far East and even this country, I am sure that the process and technique which we have used to translate primitive, folk and international material into a creative theatre, is one which would greatly benefit the African countries where we have not been able to finance a tour independently.

15

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ENCLOSURE

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I would also like at the same time to suggest State Department or private foundation subsidy for an exploratory trip of a few days, which I could make during the month of April, since I shall be in Paris at this time, and --- a period of instruction and guidance which I could offer to The National Academy Dance Department for a period before or after the Festival, and which I hope would become an annual project on my part.

I am at present in the campus of Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, in the capacity of Artist in Residence as you will see from the enclosed folder. My specific project is the staging of the Opera FAUST and the establishment of a dance department. I shall have finished for this year by the first of March and hope that by then some decision has been arrived at as to my participation with a full company.

My best regards [redacted] and again, Ambassador, accept my congratulations. b6 b7C

Yours sincerely,

Katherine Dunham.

16

THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

American Embassy,
Dakar, Senegal,
January 25, 1965.

RECEIVED
FEB 1 1965

Dear [redacted]

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On several recent occasions, Senghor has mentioned Catherine Dunham's eagerness to come to Senegal to teach dancing. It seems that she saw him in November - either in Paris or New York - and said that she wanted to open a dance school in St. Louis du Sénégal. He has assured her, however, that she could do a much more valuable job in Dakar at the School for African Arts.

Last Saturday the President again broached this matter and asked whether AID could pay Miss Dunham's travel expenses and salary. The Senegalese Government could provide living quarters. At any rate he would be writing me about it.

In this connection, our PAO has probably relayed our impression that the University of Dakar seems unlikely to invite a visiting American professor for the next academic year. The Rector was most evasive when we raised this question with him a couple of weeks ago. Senghor also complains that it is almost impossible to get a visiting professor from any country but France into the University.

Perhaps the School for African Arts is a suitable alternative. Would there be a possibility of Foundation support? I shall, of course, forward Senghor's letter as soon as it arrives.

Sincerely,

Mercer Cook

Mercer Cook

[redacted]
[redacted] African Programs,
Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.

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17

161-4870-37

ENCLOSURE

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27

5010-107

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : [redacted] CU/ECS/AA

DATE: May 4, 1965

FROM : [redacted] CU/CP

b6
b7C

SUBJECT: Katherine Dunham for a specialist grant

I have heard from eight out of fourteen Panel members who were sent my memo of April 29 on this subject. Although a few were not satisfied with the explanation of what she would teach - "what is the Katherine Dunham technique" was one of the questions raised - and some questioned the fact that she would be leaving the school to an unnamed assistant, there was general approval of the idea, considering that she was requested by the Senegalese President, and if the request is for a teacher, not as a choreographer for the Dakar Festival.

[redacted] suggested [redacted] if available, as her assistant, and would hope that President Sengor's oral invitation could be made official.

The fact that no Panel member has had first-hand knowledge of what Miss Dunham has been doing in the past ten years should be noted.

161-4870-137

ENCLOSURE

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

ORIGIN/ACTION

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

FOR RM USE ONLY

A-1387 NO. | UNCLASSIFIED | AIR PRIORITY HANDLING INDICATOR

1966 JAN 22 PM 12 13

TO : DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FOR CU

RM/A-1 ANALYSIS & DISTRIBUTION BRANCH

JAN 23 1966

b6 b7C

Info. AMEMBASSY DAKAR

FROM : AMEMBASSY PARIS

DATE: January 22, 1966

SUBJECT : EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE: American Specialist Grantee Katherine DUNHAM

REF : Wirom 3123

Miss Katherine DUNHAM now understands the terms of her travel authorization and is grateful for the clarification as well as for the excess baggage authorization, Paris-Dakar-US. She is still in Paris, having had an operation to remove some small bone particles which chipped off the kneecap as a result of a fall in a Dakar hotel. Presumably she will remain in a Paris clinic until about January 28, after which she still will have some recuperating to do in Paris.

She inquires about the possibility of her being accorded per diem allowance during some or all of her Paris stay, inasmuch as she says she is working on aspects of the April Festival of Negro Art. Among other things, she is working with the clothing designer [redacted] on a scarf design. She is working on a fashion parade. She is working up some material for the literary group, Presence Africaine. Lastly, she is researching George Washington Carver to see if his life work of research on use of peanuts might not be converted into meaningful theatrical terms for use in Senegal, where peanuts are a major export. She wished to point out that she is in Paris at the recommendation of the American Ambassador and of President Senghor, who both felt she could be most effective right now working in Paris.

In the interim, Miss Dunham says she has received a message from President Senghor approving her appointment as "Technical Cultural Advisor" to the Senegalese Government. Upon questioning, she said this would entitle her to a villa during the festival, in which to do some necessary entertaining, but that no other emoluments were involved.

.../...

UNCLASSIFIED

FORM DS-323 4-62

FOR DEPT. USE ONLY ☑ In ☐ Out

Drafted by: [redacted] sb/1/20/1966

Contents and Classification Approved by: USIS: DGaPah

Clearances: 22

161-4870-37

ENCLOSURE

Presumably Miss Dunham is writing to the above effect in a personal letter to [redacted] of CU. The Embassy would be grateful for the Department's guidance in this matter.

FOR THE AMBASSADOR

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[redacted]

ORIGIN/ACTION

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

DUNHAM

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NO.

HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State
For CU

Info : Amembassy PARIS

FROM : Amembassy DAKAR

DATE: February 1, 1966

SUBJECT: Educational and Cultural Exchange: American Specialist Grantee Katherine DUNHAM

REF : Paris A1387, 1/22/66

The referenced airgram contains the following statement:

"She (Katherine Dunham) wished to point out that she is in Paris at the recommendation of the American Ambassador and of President Senghor who both felt she could be most effective right now working in Paris."

This comes as a total surprise to me; at no time have I made any such recommendation or suggestion to Miss Dunham.

Mercer Cook

Mercer Cook

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FORM DS 323

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Drafted by: AMB:MCook:loc Jan. 28, 1966

Clearances:

Contents and Classification Approved by: AMB:MCook:

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161-4870-37

ENCLOSURE

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE FEBRUARY 14

DEPTEL PARIS 3536, 3743 & DAKAR TO DEP 544

1. POST REGRETS INABILITY PROGRAM DUNHAM PARIS GIVEN HER ILL HEALTH AND TOTAL INVOLVEMENT WITH DAKAR FESTIVAL. DUNHAM LEAVING CLINIC 14 FEBRUARY, RECUPERATING PARIS ABOUT ONE WEEK BEFORE RETURN TO DAKAR. DUNHAM SAYS INJURY INCURRED ON DUTY STATUS AND CLINIC FORWARDING BILLS TO INSURANCE COMPANY.

2. POST ATTEMPTED UNSUCCESSFULLY TO SUGGEST SHE DELAY RETURNING DAKAR SO GRANT WOULD COVER PER DIEM PAYMENTS AFTER

PAGE 2 RUFNCR 603 LIMITED OFFICIAL USEPP

FESTIVAL WHEN SHE COULD WORK MORE EFFECTIVELY. AT SAME TIME POST SYMPATHETIC HER FINANCIAL PROBLEMS AND FAIRLY CERTAIN SHE NOT RECEIVING PAYMENTS ELSEWHERE FOR ADVICE SHE GIVING PERSONS PARIS CONCERNED WITH FESTIVAL. AT MOST, POST MAY PAY MODEST SUM FOR ARTICLE. HER HEALTH PRECLUDES LECTURES OR DEMONSTRATIONS.

3. FYI DUNHAM MOST DEPRESSED OVER FESTIVAL PROSPECTS BECAUSE:

A. GUINEAN WITHDRAWAL WHICH SHE ATTRIBUTES TO WOUNDED PRIDE OVER PROMINENCE GIVEN NIGERIA BY FESTIVAL COMMITTEE. SHE MAY BE OFFERING HER GOOD OFFICES OR HER HUSBANDS TO REVERSE GUINEAN DECISION.

B. REFUSAL FESTIVAL COMMITTEE BUY COSTUMES HER LAST SHOW. THIS MAY REPRESENT EFFORT SALVAGE LOSSES INCURRED BY AMERICAN DESIGNER, RESIDING PARIS, WHEN SHOW COLLAPSED.

C. OBSTACLES ENCOUNTERED MOUNTING FASHION PARADE. THIS SEEMS SOMEWHAT MARGINAL TO INTERESTS FESTIVAL BUT MAY REPRESENT FURTHER DUNHAM EFFORT HELP AMERICAN DESIGNER. SHE BELIEVES

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161-4870-37

ENCLOSURE

SHE UP AGAINST ENTRENCHED FRENCH INTERESTS PROTECT THEIR DAKAR BOUTIQUES AND PRODUCTS.

D. MOUNTING HOSTILITY PARIS BASED PRESENCE AFRICAINE GROUP

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PAGE 3 RUFNCR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
TOWARD DAKAR COMMITTEE AND INABILITY UNESCO PROVIDE FURTHER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

4. POST BELIEVES DUNHAM INTENTIONS GOOD AND CONCURS WITH DEPARTMENT ONLY ALTERNATIVE IS HER RETURN DAKAR PER TERMS ORIGINAL GRANT. [redacted]
BT

BUREAU OF EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS
1966 FEB 14 AM 8 40
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

26

Corps de la Paix Américain

ALLÉES COURSIN
BOITE POSTALE 2534
TÉLÉPHONE 366-04 · 366-05 · 321-58
DAKAR, SENEGAL

April 12, 1966

[redacted]
U. S. Embassy
Dakar

Dear [redacted]

b6
b7C

In December, 1965, Miss Katherine Dunham asked me if I might administer to her Solumedrol 40 mg., a medication which she said she had been taking for over a long period of time for arthritic involvement of both knees. She mentioned that she was experiencing some discomfort in the knees but no more than at previous times. No mention was made of any accident having occurred immediately prior to my seeing her. She was given 40 mg. of Solumedrol IM.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted]
Peace Corps/Senegal

161-4870-37

ENCLOSURE

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ORIGIN/ACTION

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

FOR AMUSE ONLY

RECEIVED 5 1966

HANDLING INDICATOR

A-369
NO.

UNCLASSIFIED

TO : Department of State, Washington
CU

1966 MAY 5 AM 7 17

RM/AN
ANALYSIS & DISTRIBUTION
BRANCH

FROM : Amembassy Dakar

DATE: May 2, 1966

SUBJECT : EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE: Katherine DUNHAM, American Specialist.

REF : Grant Authorization 650004;
Amembassy Paris Airgram A-1387 January 22, 1966;
Deptel 597 January 28, 1966.

CU

With regard to the subject grant, the post submits the following report and requests advice on pending items as noted.

1. Grant Payments

Miss Katherine Dunham believes the Department forwarded directly to her New York City bank a payment of $264 and two payments of $462 each as compensation at $33 per day for the period November 15 to December 31, 1965. She claims she received no payment since January. A review of her file indicates she was in duty status in Dakar from December 16 to December 21, 1965, when she returned to Paris. She arrived again in Dakar on March 4, 1966, and has been in duty status since that date. Miss Dunham requests that payments be reinstated. The post requires information on payments made to date and the periods covered. An explanation on the financial arrangements presently in effect as a result of the break in duty status is also required.

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2. Hospitalization

On several occasions during visits to the USIS office, Miss Dunham advised she may bring legal action against the Department for non-payment of compensation or per diem during her stay in Paris. Initially, she claimed compensation was due since Ambassador Cook recommended she return to Paris. Reference was made to the attached copy of the Ambassador's letter to her dated February 13, 1966, in

which he

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1966 MAY 5 AM 10 14

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FORM 4-62 DS-323

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Drafted by: DMSlak/md

Contents and Classification Approved by: AMB:MCook

Clearances:

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ENCLOSURE 161-4870-37

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which he disclaimed advising her to return to Paris. She then expressed her belief that the Department is obligated to make payment of compensation and per diem because of her accident in Dakar and the need for surgery in Paris, claiming that facilities in Dakar were inadequate.

Miss Dunham did not contact the post during her December visit to advise of her accident. Since her return to Dakar she was asked repeatedly to submit a written statement regarding the circumstances of the accident, however she refused and advised the post to obtain a report from the attending physician, [redacted] Her verbal explanation is as follows: while descending a staircase at the Hotel Vichy in Dakar on December 19 or 20, 1965, she slipped and caught her left high heel on a step thus causing her left knee to bend double and her right knee to bend partially double. She claimed she slipped only and that she did not fall. She stated that the pain became intense the following day and it was necessary to call [redacted] for treatment. On requesting a report of his visit, [redacted] submitted the attached letter dated April 12.

In informal discussion with the doctor, he stated that if Miss Dunham had mentioned the accident he would have insisted on taking X-rays. He further stated that during his visit Miss Dunham advised that her chronic arthritic condition was becoming more serious and that sooner or later she would require surgery. Attached is a copy of a statement from her Parisian doctor dated February 10 which also makes reference to the chronic defect. Miss Dunham advised that hospital bills in excess of $4,000 are still outstanding while her insurance coverage is limited to $1,000.

The Department's advice regarding compensation and/or per diem payments during Miss Dunham's stay in Paris is requested. Miss Dunham also inquired of the possibility of the Department's increasing her insurance liability.

3. Reports and Follow-Up Action

The post is unable to render a report on the effectiveness of Miss Dunham's program. Her visits to USIS are primarily concerned with financial matters. She was disappointed in the lack of publi-

city on her....

city on her arrival and the apparent disinterest on the part of the local government officials. Several weeks after her arrival she advised the post that the dance school project she wished to pursue could not be realized. The local government had no funds to finance the school because of its commitments with regard to the recent Festival of Negro Arts. At that time she requested that approval be granted for her transfer to another African country. In late March, however, she appeared to be content to stay in Dakar since President Senghor furnished her with an apartment as promised in his telegram of January 12 (copy attached). She then inquired of the possibility of a three-month extension. As noted in the telegram, she was given the title of "Technical Cultural Advisor" (Conseiller Technique Culturel). The exact responsibilities of this title are unknown. b6 b7C

For the Ambassador.

[redacted]

Public Affairs Officer

Enclosures: att 6

1. Copy of Ambassador Cook's letter dated February 13, 1966
2. [redacted] letter dated April 12, 1966
3. Copy of [redacted] letter dated February 10, 1966
4. Copy of Pres. Senghor's telegram dated January 12, 1966.

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CU-4

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ARMY	CIA	NAVY
OSD	USIA	NSA
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

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A-13
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PRIORITY
HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

1966 AUG 5 PM 3 35

RS/AN
ANALYSIS BRANCH

FROM : Amembassy DAKAR

DATE: August 2, 1966

SUBJECT : Education Cultural Exchange: Request for Extension of Grant to Miss Katherine Dunham

REF Dept. A-30 May 19, 1966

CW

The Embassy has just received a request from the Secretary General of the Presidency requesting an extension of Miss Dunham's grant which expires August 30, 1966. This letter, of which a copy is enclosed, states that Miss Dunham is now giving modern dance classes to the ballet troup of the National Theater and needs to continue her work for one more year in order to finish the job she has started.

While Miss Dunham may be doing useful work with the Senegalese dance troup, the Embassy would recommend against the requested extension for the following reasons:

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1. Miss Dunham has caused considerable difficulties for the US Government in Dakar in the past which are well known in Washington and which could well recur.

2. Miss Dunham has already indicated that if the extension is approved, she will demand considerably more support from the Senegalese Government than she has received to date, including such items as a large, adequately furnished house, a car and chauffeur, a secretary, and an operating budget of at least $5000. There is no reason to believe that the GOS is either willing or able to meet any of these demands.

3. There has in the past been serious antagonism between Miss Dunham and the Director of the Senegalese National Theater, and this could cause further embarrassment to the US Government in the future.

.../

Enclosure: translation of letter from Sec. Gen. of the Presidency

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FORM 4-62 DS-323

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In Out

Drafted by: CHARGE: USIS: KBEmmons 7/27/66

Contents and Classification Approved by: CHARGE:

Clearances: USIS

161-4870-37

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ENCLOSURE

1966 AUG 5 PM 5 11

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4. Even in the absence of any of the above problems, it is not believed that the cost of this extension would be justified in terms of the overall program of this post. With limited funds available the post believes that other uses could be found which would be more important to overall US objectives.

In view of the shortness of time involved and as a courtesy to Miss Dunham and the Senegalese Government, an early reply would be appreciated.

b6
b7C

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

In renewing my congratulations and thanks for the brilliant participation of your country in the First World Festival of Negro Arts, I am happy to tell you of our complete satisfaction with the services rendered during that period by Miss Katherine Dunham who you were kind enough to assign to the offices of the President of the Republic as a technical advisor.

At present, Miss Dunham is giving classes in modern dance to the ballet troup of our National Theater. Accordingly, I would be very grateful if the State Department would be willing to continue Miss Dunham's contract in her present position for a period of one year, so that she might be able to finish the job that she has started. b6 b7C

Complimentary closing,

[redacted]

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Department of State

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CU
ACTION: AmEmbassy, DAKAR

STATE 24197

AF
ØUSIA
REF: DAKAR A-13

Department regrets lack of funds prevents extension AmSpec. Katherine DUNHAM's grant.

END

RUSK

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Drafted by: CU/ECS:AA:BZemplenyi:cam 8-9-66 | Tel. Ext. 6794 | Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:

Clearances:
CU/AF ☐ (in substance)
AFN ☐ (in substance)
USIA/IAA:AKasmoff (in substance)

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Classification

161-4870-37

FORM DS-3228 8-65 33 Corrections made on this original MUST be made on all copies before delivery to OC/T(A), Room 6243

ENCLOSURE

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1966-205-701

UNCLASSIFIED

EMBASSY
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

U.S. INFORMATION SERVICE

Dakar, Senegal
November 18, 1966

OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

[redacted] CU/AF
Department of State
Washington, D.C.

Dear [redacted]

There are two subjects that we would very much like answers on:

1. For some time the Senegalese Basketball Federation has been after us to send a group of their coaches to the U.S. for a training course. Needless to say we cannot finance this out of our budget. Do you know of any private or semi-private organization that might be offering such a deal this winter? Or is CU going to organize and finance such a project on a regional basis?

2. Sometime during the Festival of Negro Arts, Katherine Dunham managed to lose all of her ticket and excess baggage stubbs. Twice now we have cabled CU to ask simply how much of the latter she has left. We have received no answer. We do have an OM describing in detail how her travel has been used up, but we do not know just exactly how much excess baggage she still has coming under her grant. I realize that this is the kind of picky question that drives finance offices crazy, but I would be grateful if you could find out for us.

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b7C

For your information, Katherine Dunham has severed all connection with the GOS. Their offer to extend her grant did not work out. She plans to stay here until March 67 anyway, in order to write a book on Haiti. She will then return to her teaching job at Southern Illinois University.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/1/00 BY [illegible]

34*

161-4870-37

ENCLOSURE

2/27/67

AIRTEL

TO : SAC, NEW YORK

FROM : SAC, WFO (161-4100)(P)

KATHERINE DUNHAM, aka
SPI

ReNY teletype to WFO dated 2/14/67.

Internal Revenue Service (IRS) unable to locate income tax data concerning appointee. IRS interested in knowing date appointee plans to return to this country and where she will be residing so she can be interviewed. New York handle, and advise WFO who will notify appropriate IRS authorities.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/7/00 BY SP-4 by Hcg

2 - New York
1 - Bureau
1 - WFO

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AIRTEL

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23 MAR 13 1967

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61 MAR 27 1967

3/2/67

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, WASHINGTON FIELD (161-4100)

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (161-2271) (RUC)

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b7C

SUBJECT: KATHERINE DUNHAM aka;
SPI

Re WFO airtel to NY, 2/27/67.

[redacted] Dunham School, 440 West 42nd Street, NYC, anticipates return of appointee from Senegal during mid March, 1967. Place of residence not certain but most likely with friends and associates in NYC area.

It is suggested WFO furnish appropriate IRS authorities with aforementioned school address and name of Registrar to facilitate their interest in this matter.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/7/00 BY SP4 bjs/tcg

2-Washington Field
1-Bureau
1-New York

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4 MAR 3 1967

Spec. Inq.

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61 MAR 27 1967

March 2, 1967

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KATHERINE DUNHAM

Miss Dunham, although married [redacted] 440 W. 42nd St. New York, New York, is known professionally by her maiden name, Katherine Dunham. Various records reviewed indicate she was born on either June 22, 1909, or June 22, 1910. This memorandum supplements the information contained in the summary memorandum dated February 17, 1967.

The records of the Passport Office, Department of State, show that since June, 1935, Miss Dunham has been issued several passports for travel to various countries of the world for business purposes. The records of the Passport Office show that in connection with one of her passport applications, she indicated she married [redacted] in Chicago, Illinois, on May 29, 1930. She indicated the marriage was terminated by divorce on February 3, 1936. The files of the Passport Office contain no additional pertinent information concerning Miss Dunham.

The records of the Bureau of Vital Statistics, Cook County, Chicago, Illinois, show that Katherine Dunham [redacted] were married in Chicago, Illinois, on May 29, 1930. This was the first marriage for each of these individuals.

The records of the Superior Court, Cook County, Chicago, Illinois, show that [redacted] was granted a divorce from Katherine Dunham McCoo on February 2, 1939, on the charge of desertion.

[redacted] advised he first became acquainted with Katherine Dunham in approximately 1928 or 1929, and

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY SP4 bjk/tcg

WHB:jmb jmb

161-4870 40 OEC

ENCLOSURE

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Return to Mr. BURKE, Room 1254.

they were married in Chicago, Illinois, in May, 1930. He stated that at that time, his former wife's career in dancing was "getting under way" and she had had several performances in the Chicago, Illinois, area. He stated they had a very pleasant and happy marriage until they had "disagreements," and through mutual consent they separated and he subsequently obtained a divorce from her. He said the divorce did not involve any scandal or notoriety. He stated he has had no contact with his former wife for approximately 25 years. However, based on his knowledge of her, he would state she is a loyal American citizen of good character, reputation, and morals. No information of an unfavorable nature has been brought to his attention concerning her.

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b7D

Information has been received from the Office of Security, Department of State, indicating that its files contain no additional pertinent information concerning Miss Dunham.

The files of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State, reveal that Miss Dunham was awarded a grant on July 9, 1965, under the provisions of Public Law 87-256 (The Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, approved on September 21, 1961), as an American Specialist in the field of dance to go to Dakar, Senegal, for a total period of 189 days effective November 15, 1965.

[redacted] Division of Americans Abroad, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State, Washington, D. C., advised that her office had considerable trouble with reference to travel arrangements, salary, request to be allowed expenses for excess baggage, and many other matters in connection with Miss Dunham's grant under the provisions of Public Law 87-256. She indicated that as a result of the trouble experienced by her office in connection with Miss Dunham's grant, it is doubtful she would again be recommended for a similar grant. She said she noted Miss Dunham's grant terminated on August 30, 1966.

1 - Mr. Gale
1 - Mr. Cleveland
1 - Mr. Burke

March 2, 1967

BY LIAISON

Honorable Marvin Watson
Special Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Watson:

By letter dated February 17, 1967, you were furnished a summary memorandum containing the results of investigation regarding Miss Katherine Dunham. Enclosed is a memorandum which supplements the information contained in the summary memorandum dated February 17, 1967.

A check of the records of the Internal Revenue Service has not been completed. When the results of that check have been received, you will be advised.

The Attorney General has not been provided a copy of this communication.

Sincerely yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/1/00 BY SP-4 [illegible]

Enclosure

161-4870 RECORDED 25 MAR 13 1967
Delivered to Mildred Stegall on 3-2-67 a.m.

ENCLOSURE

WHB:jmb
(5)

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR ADD. DISSEMINATION.

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Holmes
Gandy

61 MAR 27 1967

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Return to Mr. BURKE, Room 1254.

(2)

MAR 1 11 49 AM '67 MAR

REC'D-READING ROOM

F B I

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
F. B. I.

MAR 2 9 56 AM '67

Photo Encl

CC TO: NS (NYC)
REQ. REC'D 11-9-70
NOV 23 1970
ANS.
BY: WRJ

MAR 2 10 55 AM '67

REC'D DE LOACH

F B I

MAR 1 4 39 PM '67

REC'D DE LOACH

F B I

Photo Encl

CC TO: 3 State
REQ. REC'D 9-16-74
OCT 2 1974
ANS.
BY: [illegible]

b6
b7C

(Caughter)

Photo

CC TO: USIA
REQ. REC'D 8-30-72
SEP 11 1972
ANS.
BY: Ed AEH

Photo

CC TO: CSC-NEAH
REQ. REC'D 2-2
FEB 19 1977
ANS.
BY: JAK/JMC

Photo Encl

CC TO: Hew
REQ. REC'D 5/27/75
JUN 10 1975
ANS.
BY: WRJ/[illegible]

3/3/67

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, NEW YORK (161-2271)

FROM: SAC, WFO (161-4100) (P)

RE: KATHERINE DUNHAM, aka;
SPI

b6
b7C

Re WFO telephone call to NY, 3/3/67.

This confirms telephone lead at request of Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for New York Office to endeavor to get social security number for appointee's husband, [redacted] and to advise WFO who is maintaining liaison with IRS.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/7/00 BY SP4 bjs/tcg

2- New York
1- Bureau
1- WFO

JER:clm
(4)

AIRTEL

161-4100-41
NOT RECORDED
25 MAR 13 1967

301

3/6/67

AIRTEL

b6
b7C
b7D

TO: SAC, WASHINGTON FIELD (161-4100)

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (161-2271)

SUBJECT: KATHERINE DUNHAM aka;
SPI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/7/00 BY [illegible]

ReWFOairtel to NY, 3/3/67.

[redacted] Dunham School, 440 West 42nd Street, NY, NY, advised she has no information regarding the social security number [redacted]

[redacted] further advised the appointee is anticipating to arrive NYC on or about 3/18/67, and will use the school address for mail and contact purposes, but will be visiting with friends in NYC. She stated the appointee will remain a brief period before traveling to Washington, D.C. to visit and traveling on to the University of Southern Illinois, Carbondale, Illinois, where she is due by 4/1/67.

She stated the appointee [redacted] will be securing an apartment at Carbondale, Illinois, and will be on record with the University if contact is desired at that time.

2-Washington Field
1-Bureau
1-New York

RNT:ptf
(5)

161-4870-42

NOT RECORDED
12 MAR 7 1967

Spec. Ind.

301

Chr
3/17

25 MAR 13 '67

Chr
3/24
Mr
Cleveland
serial # 17

RECEIVED F B I
MAR 7 12 33 PM '67
SPECIAL INQUIRY SECTION
F B I
U.S. DEPT. JUSTICE

NOT RECORDED

DATE
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

FD-36 (Rev. 5-22-64)

FBI

Date: 3/17/67

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, WFO (161-4100)(P)

KATHERINE DUNHAM, aka
SPI

ReNY airtel to WFO dated 3/6/67.

Close liaison being maintained by WFO with IRS, which has been unable to locate income tax data for appointee or spouse. IRS awaiting their arrival from overseas expected latter part of March or early April, 1967. Upon arrival, IRS will contact them and report results of their income tax check.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY SP-4 bjs/tcg

161-4870-43

NOT RECORDED
5 MAR 31 1967

161-4870

1 - Bureau
1 - WFO

JER:clm
(2)

AIRTEL

Approved: 4478 Sent _____ M Per _____
53 APR 5 1967 Special Agent in Charge

FD-36 (Rev. 5-22-64)

FBI

Date: 3/24/67

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, WFO (161-4100) (P)

KATHERINE DUNHAM, aka
SPI

ReWFO airtel to Bureau dated 3/17/67.

Status of IRS check remains the same. Liaison being maintained with IRS and results of their report will be immediately submitted when available.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/10 BY SP-4 bjp/tcg

(IRS reports)
2 ENCLOSURE

161-4870-44
NOT RECORDED
5 MAR 31 1967

161-4870

1 - Bureau
1 - WFO

JER:mav
(2)

AIRTEL

Approved: 53 APR 5 1967 Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

1 - Mr. Gale
1 - Mr. Cleveland
1 - Mr. Burke

March 29, 1967

BY LIAISON

Mrs. Mildred Stegall
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Stegall:

By letters dated February 17, 1967, and March 2, 1967, the results of investigation concerning Miss Katherine Dunham were furnished.

Enclosed is a copy of an Internal Revenue Service report dated March 24, 1967, concerning Miss Dunham's income tax returns for the years 1963 through 1965. Upon receipt of additional information from the Internal Revenue Service concerning Miss Dunham's income tax returns, you will be advised.

The Attorney General has not been provided a copy of this communication.

Sincerely yours,

161-4870-45

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY SP-4 bga/tcg

161-4870

NOT RECORDED
5 MAR 31 1967
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MAR 28 3 [illegible]

Enclosure

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WHB:jmb
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53 APR 5 1967

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MAR 28

Delivered to Mildred Stegall on 3-29-67

Return to Mr. BURKE, Room 1254.

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MAR 29 9 57 AM '67
DEPT. OF JUSTICE

MAR 29 11 05 AM '67
REC'D DE LOACH
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RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
F. B. I.
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MAR 29 1 46 PM '67
REC'D-READING ROOM
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MAR 29 3 13 PM '67
REC'D DE LOACH
F B I

FD-205 (Rev. 1-10-63)

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI ( ) DATE: 4/3/67

FROM : SAC, WFO (161-4100)

SUBJECT: KATHERINE DUNHAM
SPI

partial IRS, 3/27/67

SOG ACTION:
(Records Branch)

☐ Post and destroy
☐ File

This case will be delinquent.

Date of Bureau deadline: 2/2/67

Reason for the delinquency: IRS outstanding.

Date the report or necessary communication will reach the Bureau: 4/10/67

AEC zone designation; e.g., OR, CH, etc.:
(This applies only to 116 cases.)

☒ No administrative action necessary.

161-4870

JER/am

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/7/00 BY SP4 bjs/tcg

4/11/67

airtel

To: SAC, Washington Field (161-4100)

From: Director, FBI (161-4870)

KATHERINE DUNHAM, aka
SPECIAL INQUIRY

On instant date advice was received from the White House that no further investigation is necessary concerning Dunham. Accordingly, you should take no further action in this matter.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY SP4 Dya/Hcg

MAILED 25
APR 11 1967
COMM - FBI

161-4870-47
NOT RECORDED
7 APR 14 1967

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WHB:jmb
(4)

61 APR 18 1967

MAIL ROOM ☑ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Return to Mr. BURKE, Room 1254.

- Mr. Gale
1 - Mr. Cleveland
1 - Mr. Burke

April 12, 1967

BY LIAISON

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Mrs. Mildred Stegall
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Stegall:

Reference is made to my previous communications which furnished the results of investigation as well as a partial check of the records of the Internal Revenue Service concerning Miss Katherine Dunham.

[redacted]

In accordance with advice received from you on April 11, 1967, no further investigation is being conducted regarding Miss Dunham.

The Attorney General has not been provided a copy of this communication.

161-4870-48

Sincerely yours,

NOT RECORDED
7 APR 14 1967

NOTE: By communications dated 2/17/67, ~~3/2~~/67, ~~and~~ 3/29/67 the results of investigation as well as a partial check of the IRS records were furnished to the White House regarding Miss Dunham. Mrs. Stegall at the White House on 4/11/67 advised no further investigation concerning Miss Dunham should be conducted.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/7/00 BY SP4bjlltag

WHB:jmb
(5)

Delivered to Mildred Stegall
on 4-12-67

Return to Mr. BURKE, Room 1254.

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MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

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12/3/68

Airtel 1 - [redacted]

To: SAC, Springfield

From: Director, FBI

KATHERINE DUNHAM
RACIAL MATTERS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/7/00 BY [redacted]

ReSLairtel 11/22/68, entitled [redacted] RM - Black Liberators."

If not previouslyhandled, you should promptly institute a discreet investigation of Dunham to be handled in strict accordance with the provisions of Section 87D, Manual of Instructions, as they relate to investigations of individuals connected with institutions of learning. The results of your investigation should be submitted in form suitable for dissemination along with your specific recommendations for further action. Consideration must also be given to the inclusion of subject's name in the Security Index and/or Agitator Index.

In view of the allegation received concerning Dunham, this matter must receive continuing priority attention in order to determine her activities as a black extremist and to fully resolve the allegation. All logical investigative steps must be considered including the development of source or sources close to Dunham and in a position to report on her daily activities.

Enclosures - 23

(1) - 161-4870

161-487049
NOT RECORDED
167 DEC 11 1968

ERS:lkm
(5)

DUPLICATE YELLOW

SEE NOTE PAGE THREE

DEC 24 1968

11625

ORIGINAL FILED IN

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Springfield refer to your airtel and LHM, 7/31/67, entitled [redacted] East St. Louis, Illinois, Police Department Officers; Katherine Dunham, aka, Mrs. John Pratt - Victim; Possible CR" and to the Springfield report of SA [redacted] 2/1/67, entitled, "Katherine Dunham, Special Inquiry" (Springfield file 161-318). Enclosed for your assistance in this matter are the following communications bearing the latter caption:

San Francisco report of SA [redacted] 1/31/67 and its informant reliability memorandum.

Mexico, D.F. report of SA [redacted] 1/31/67.

Detroit report of SA [redacted] 2/1/67 and its informant reliability memorandum.

Seattle report of SA [redacted] 2/1/67 and its informant reliability memorandum.

Chicago report of SA [redacted] 2/1/67 and its informant reliability memorandum.

Los Angeles report of SA [redacted] 2/1/67.

New York report of SA [redacted] 2/1/67 and its informant reliability memorandum.

Philadelphia report of SA [redacted] 2/1/67 and its informant reliability memorandum.

WFO report of SA [redacted] 2/2/67.

New York report of SA [redacted] 2/14/67.

Los Angeles report of SA [redacted] 2/16/67.

b6
b7C

Airtel to SAC, Springfield
RE: KATHERINE DUNHAM

Seattle report of SA [redacted], 2/17/67.

New York report of SA [redacted], 2/17/67.

Chicago report of SA [redacted] 2/18/67.

WFO airtel, 2/24/67.

Also enclosed for Springfield is one copy each of St. Louis airtel and LHM, 9/9/68, entitled, "Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee."

NOTE:

Dunham, a Negro dancer and choreographer, is on the staff of Southern Illinois University, East St. Louis, Illinois. [redacted] the Black Liberators, a group which patterns its activities after those of the Black Panther Party, has advised that he expects to be imprisoned in the near future and is in the process of turning over the leadership of his group to another individual. In this connection he stated one of his most important contacts was Katherinee Dunham, because she handled "international contacts." This allegation requires prompt and thorough investigative attention.